



DAN VERDEROSA/GREYHOUND

A sprinkler in Campion Tower went off after a shirt and hanger was hung off it. Water damage resulted in several rooms on floors seven through one and residents were evacuated for the night.

Mishap evacuates dorm

BY MARY SCOTT
NEWS EDITOR

Residents of Campion Tower were forced to evacuate and sleep elsewhere last Monday night, Dec. 5, after the sprinkler system was activated at approximately 11:30 p.m., causing some flooding to occur in the building.

On Monday night, a resident of Campion Tower was ironing his shirt in the dining room of his apartment and then hung the shirt and hanger on the sprinkler head in that room. The crystal head, which has chemicals in it designed to burst when the room temperature reaches extremely high levels, broke with the weight of the hanger, causing water to flood out of the sprinkler.

The student who misused the sprinkler was taken to the hospital to have his eyes checked after complaining of diminished eyesight and a burning sensation in his eyes because water from the sprinkler sprayed directly onto his face. It had not been determined by press time whether or not judicial action will be taken against the student.

Water damage was present in three to four rooms per floor from the seventh floor down, and the lobby. Specifically, most of the damage was in the room in which the sprinkler was misused, and in the dining rooms of each apartment directly below that room.

"It was surprising to me how much water can come out of one

sprinkler head, because there was just so much water coming from one source," said Mike Puma, the assistant director for Student Life on duty that night.

At this point in time, Student Life is unsure as to when remaining repairs to the building will be made because they are waiting for any remaining moisture to dry in the carpet and walls.

"Obviously, we want to move forward as quickly as possible, but we don't want to impact students

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Juniors say goodbye to classmates at Farewell Feast in McGuire Hall

BY DAN VERDEROSA
MANAGING EDITOR

Students gathered in McGuire Hall Sunday night to say goodbye to one another at the Class of 2007 Farewell Feast, sponsored by the Junior Class Assembly.

Tickets had been sold for \$12 each, but due to low sales the dinner was made free, meaning the Student Government Association took a complete loss, with the money coming out of the Junior Class allotment. Despite the change in ticket price, attendance

at the event was still low, with about 30 to 40 students attending.

Despite the low turnout, those in attendance were happy with the event as a whole. Junior Assemblyman Jamaal Jones said of the event, "This is one of the

continued on page 5

LC lacrosse coach remains unresolved

BY TERRY FOY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

After another series of meetings, Loyola officials have not come to a decision regarding the future of head men's lacrosse coach Bill Dirrigl. Athletic Director Joe Boylan, Vice President of Student Life Susan Donovan, Dirrigl and others met for much of Monday morning and have scheduled another meeting for tomorrow.

"At this point, we haven't reached a decision," Boylan said Monday night. "Again, we're just trying to be fair to all sides."

Dirrigl has been on a leave of absence since Nov. 21 when he left the team for personal reasons. In his place, assistant coach Charley

Toomey has taken over lead responsibilities on an interim basis.

Officials in the athletic department continue to stress that a full coaching staff will be in place by the start of spring practices because it is in the best interest of the players to do so.

The team had a meeting Monday night as well in which they discussed conditioning plans for the winter break.

Dirrigl's leave of absence raised a number of questions both in the Loyola and the national lacrosse community, largely because of its abruptness as the Greyhounds came off of a very productive fall season.

Please check www.loyolagreyhound.com for continual updates as this story unfolds.



DAN VERDEROSA/GREYHOUND

Junior Class President Mike Hardy and Jamaal Jones serve themselves at the buffetline at the Junior Farewell Feast on Sunday night. Hardy later bid farewell to those going abroad, reciting a haiku.

Marshals kill man who claimed to have a bomb at Miami airport

By KEN KAYE, MADELINE BARO DIAZ AND
McNELLY TORRES
SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL

MIAMI -- A troubled passenger was fatally shot by federal air marshals Wednesday after threatening he had a bomb in his backpack and as he charged off an American Airlines jet at Miami International Airport, federal officials said.

It was the first time marshals killed a passenger on or near a U.S. plane since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The passenger was identified as Rigoberto Alpizar, 44, of Maitland, Fla., a U.S. citizen with no apparent terrorist motives, officials said.

Another passenger, Mary Gardner, told a local NBC affiliate that a woman traveling with Alpizar, apparently his wife, said he suffered from a severe mental disorder and had stopped taking his medicine.

Authorities could not verify that, but gave

this account of events:

Alpizar had taken an American Airlines flight from Quito, Ecuador, to Miami, arriving early Wednesday morning.

After clearing U.S. Customs, he boarded American Airlines Flight 924, a Boeing 757 scheduled to depart from Gate D-42 at 2:18 p.m. to Orlando International Airport, near his home.

As Alpizar was getting on the jetliner, air marshals noticed he was acting strangely, walking aggressively.

About 10 minutes before departure, still during the boarding process, Alpizar "uttered threatening words," informing nearby passengers that he had a bomb in his backpack, said Jim Bauer, special agent in charge of the Federal Air Marshals Miami office.

Two federal air marshals overheard Alpizar, he said.

"They came out of their cover and confronted him," Bauer said.

Alpizar attempted to flee, and some passengers reported seeing him run frantically up the plane's aisle.

The marshals chased him onto the jet bridge, connecting the plane with the terminal, and ordered him to get on the ground. Alpizar instead reached into his bag, and the agents responded with gunfire.

According to some passengers, four to five shots were fired. It wasn't immediately clear whether other passengers were on the jet bridge at the time.

Officials later went through the contents of the backpack and found no explosives, said Rick Thomas, the Transportation Security Administration's federal director at Miami International.

The Miami-Dade Police bomb squad unit also removed all the baggage from the aircraft, laying it out on the ramp, and inspected each piece, using bomb-sniffing dogs. They found no explosives.

After the shooting, heavily armed Miami-Dade Police SWAT team officers surrounded the jetliner. Police boarded the plane and told the passengers to put their hands on their heads, Gardner told the TV station.

"It was quite scary," she said. "They wouldn't let you move. They wouldn't let you get anything out of your bag. Thank God everybody seems to be fine."

Investigators then spent hours processing the scene and talking to witnesses, which included many of the flight's 133 passengers, who were cleared



RED HUBER/ORLANDO SENTINEL
Copy of a photo of Rigoberto Alpizar and his wife, Anne Buechner. Alpizar was killed by a federal air marshal last week.

off the plane.

Officials said the marshals had been scheduled to be on the flight as a matter of routine and had no prior knowledge that there might be trouble. The marshals are trained to shoot to kill if a passenger poses a serious threat.

As a precaution after the shooting, federal air marshals around the nation were put on a high alert, just in case terrorism was involved, said Andy Apollony, assistant special agent in charge of the FBI's Miami office.

"Anytime anyone says he has a bomb on a plane, we're going to look at that," he said, adding that no connection to terrorism was immediately found.

The D concourse was shut down for about 30 minutes and only one flight was delayed, Miami airport officials said. The airport resumed normal operations by about 3 p.m.

Bauer said many details of the shooting need to be sorted out.

"This investigation is still under way," he said. "We don't have all the answers."



C. M. GUERRERO/ORLANDO SENTINEL
Passengers from an American Airlines Flight arriving from Colombia and landing at Miami International Airport, Florida, exit the plane with their hands above their heads after a passenger who claimed to have a bomb was killed by a federal air marshal.

Volunteers needed for MLK Day

Volunteers are needed for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Job Fair at St. Francis Academy on Monday, Jan. 16.

This is an annual event that provides support for people seeking steady employment through job and resume consultations, employment workshops and tips for interviewing.

Volunteers are needed for partial day or full day shifts, and tasks include teaching job-readiness skills, offering resume advice or serving food. For more information, visit <http://sfacademy.org>.

Women's Center giving free massages

The Women's Center is hosting their annual free seated massages today and tomorrow.

Students, staff, faculty and administrators are all welcome. Time slots are available between the hours of 11 a.m. until 4:45 p.m., however appointments are necessary and may be made by calling the center at 410-617-5844. Refreshments will be served.

Weight Watchers returning in January

Weight Watchers is returning to Loyola in January and it will be open to the entire college community.

This is a prepaid and non-refundable program, with all fees being collected prior to the start of meeting. Program fees are

\$144 for 12 weeks or \$168 for 14 weeks. A group of 25 participants or more is needed to fulfill the programs turnout requirement.

Weight Watchers has been on campus in the past and participants have reported success. The time and date for the first meeting have yet to be determined.

Chapel choir CD released

The Loyola College Chapel Choir has released its latest CD, a live recording of

The Festival of Lessons & Carols 2005. It is available for purchase in Campus Ministry or on in the

Boulder Atrium all week from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at a cost of \$15.00.

NEWSBRIEFS

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Campus Police Blotter

Selected excerpts from reports

Thursday, Dec. 1

At approximately 2:30 a.m. a fire alarm went off in Newman Towers. Upon arrival, campus police found that a fire extinguisher had been used in the kitchen of one room and sprayed back into the dining room. BCFD arrived and said that there was no known need for the use of the fire extinguisher. A resident of the room stated that he had sprayed the extinguisher because he thought his pizza was burning in the oven. Residents were advised to clean up the powdered substance before eating or cooking anything in the kitchen area. A new fire extinguisher was placed in the room.

Friday, Dec. 2

Campus police were dispatched to investigate the north entrance of Avila Hall. A student had reported that glass was broken, and the glass on the door was spider cracked from left to right. Officers received a tip that resident of Newman Towers may have done the damage and they went to Newman Towers to investigate. Upon arrival, they asked where the suspect was to which his roommate replied, "In the bathroom." An officer went to retrieve him and as the suspect came out of the bathroom, he shut the door behind him abruptly which made the officers suspicious. An officer opened the door back up and there was an odor of marijuana in the air, residue on the sink and tub and a red smoking device under the sink. The student admitted to pushing the door with the cracked glass out of anger, and the red smoking device was confiscated.

Sunday, Dec. 4

Officers were dispatched to Seton Court at 11:30 p.m. for a possible harassment in progress. A resident called campus police and stated to the dispatcher that there were three white males knocking, kicking and pushing violently on her door. She looked out the peephole while on the phone with campus police, but never answered the door or acknowledged them verbally. Before officers arrived on the scene, the three suspects were gone. The force that was used on the door was evident; the side of the door that houses the bolt has a long vertical split on it, as if the door was about to break in half. The suspects also kicked or punched a hole in the wall in front of her door. The resident stated that she did not know who the three men were.

-compiled by Mary Scott



KRISTEN CESIRO/GREYHOUND

Plans call for the College to construct a dorm on the field behind Butler and Hammerman, pictured here enclosed by a chain-link fence.

Plan finalized for new dorm

BY CLAIRE HOFFMAN
STAFF WRITER

The college finalized plans last week for a new dorm that will be ready for the fall of 2007. The dorm will be located on the east side of campus, on what is now the Butler soccer field, and will house 350 freshmen.

"Basically, the dorm will address overcrowding and bring more students on campus," said Helen Schneider, the assistant Vice President for Facilities and Campus Services. "More students want to live on campus than have been able."

Construction will begin in March. While the school is still talking to architects about how some of the interior spaces, such as the entrance and the security, will be laid out, the basic set-up has been decided. Along with the necessary student life offices, the dorm will have a kitchen and various study and multi-use areas.

The rooms will all be doubles. Each room will have a door to the hallway, but will share an internal bathroom with one other room.

According to Schneider, they are also still deciding on the exterior. "In the next couple of weeks, a mock-up wall will be put up on the field so we can look at some options," she said. "We're thinking either a terra cotta tile or brick exterior."

"In terms of moving forward, we know the basics," said Sarah Mansfield, associate director of Student Life. "We still have a

little time to work the details out."

About 300 of the residents will be new freshman, and the remaining 50 will eliminate the overcrowding in Butler and Hammerman. It will also bring more freshman out of Newman and on to the East side.

"We are still working out what to do with the Newman spaces," Schneider said. "We think that the 16 person room [in Newman West] will remain, because it seems to have been great for the women there to build a strong community."

The college will pay for the project with bond financing. Basically, the college will take out a loan, and use the revenue coming in to repay it.

The Butler soccer field will be moved to the Intercollegiate Athletic Complex, which will be built down Cold Spring Lane. Construction on the complex will also begin in the Spring, and Schneider estimates that the process will take about 2-2 1/2 years.

In the meantime, the AstroTurf on the Geppi-Aikens field will be replaced this summer by something that works for both soccer and lacrosse.

The college has not designed and built a dorm since the Gardens Apartments were built in 1986, and Lange Court about 10 years ago.

Schneider is very optimistic about the project. "It's going to be a great dorm," she said. "We're all very excited."

'Presence' helps local needy

BY MARY BETH ELLIS
STAFF WRITER

Loyola's Presence for Christmas Program, an annual event coordinated by the sophomore class and the Center for Values and Services, collected gifts at Lessons and Carols on Friday, Dec. 9 and they will be distributed this week.

The program provides gifts for families, individual children and a superstore where parents can pick unwrapped gifts for their children. Loyola students collect gifts for agencies and community partners such as the St. Ambrose Family Outreach Center and the Learning Bank.

Campus departments, teams, residence hall floors and student clubs all sponsor families. This year some sponsors are the Asian Student Association, the Women's Basketball team and Student Activities.

"They provide a holiday meal and a gift for each family member for 78 families," said Dennis McCunney, assistant director of student staff development for the Center for Values and Services.

"This is a service project that involves the whole community," stated McCunney. Students, faculty, staff and administrators can participate.

Students brought their gifts to the Lessons and Carols Celebration on Friday where they were placed under a Christmas tree in the Chapel.

CVS merged with Campus Ministry in order to put the event together. McCunney believes "this gets people is the Christmas spirit."

This week the sophomore class representatives deliver the gifts with a volunteer truck and driver supplied by

Chesapeake Office Supply.

"It is the sophomore class representatives that make it happen," McCunney said. "They get students to sign up, remind them to bring their gifts, and help with delivery."

The planning started in September. Dylan O'Shea, sophomore class president, said that the sophomore assembly and Student Government Association is divided into three groups and matched with one of the aspects of the program.

"The individual sponsors are the most prominent," O'Shea said. "They set up tables outside of Boulder and Primo's to solicit students to sponsor a child." They also send e-mail reminders of where and when to drop off the gifts.

Students sponsor about 200-300 individual kids from Choice, the Police Athletic League, and the Hispanic Apostolate among other places.

The Resident Affairs Council and the Honors Program are collecting unwrapped gifts to stock the superstores at agencies like St. Jerome's Headstart.

According to Lauren Teresa, Honors Program Council, the Honors Program has participated every year collecting as many unwrapped presents as possible. This year they invited faculty to participate.

"I think this is good for the Honors Program because it needs to be involved with more service activities in the outside community," stated Teresa.

At the superstores, parents can earn points to pick out gifts for their children and but wrapping paper.

"This is important because parents have involvement and a say in what their kids receive for Christmas. The opportunity to choose is really critical," McCunney said.



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Repairs to be made in Champion Inaugural faith-based trip to Jamaica offered

continued from the front page during finals. The things that will impact the students the most will get done before the semester break is over," said Sarah Mansfield, associate director of Student Life.

The decision to evacuate all residents for the night was made so that workers from the physical plant could ensure the structural safety of the building. Before students could be allowed in the building for any extended period of time, Maintenance fixed the broken sprinkler head that morning. Environmental Services had to begin the cleanup process of excess flood water and Arundel Elevators was contacted to check the safety of the elevators.

"All of the areas on campus have an evacuation plan already in place for any reason, be it fire, terrorism, or an incident such as this," Mansfield said.

Campion's evacuation plan was

to house students at the Fitness and Aquatic Center. About two hours after initially evacuating the building, students were escorted into the building by floor to get their belongings for the night.

"I can say maintenance did a

sleep on couches and floors at friends rooms in other buildings.

"We are lucky that the campus is pretty close knit, and has apartments with couches. A lot of students took up offers to stay with friends for the night," Puma said.

Students were allowed back into the building at 5 a.m., when officials were sure of the building's safety.

"We moved pretty quickly in terms of trying not to impact the students for an extended period of time," Mansfield said.

Workers from Event Services, Environmental Services, Campus police and shuttle

drivers all worked collaboratively to get the residents evacuated and back into the building as quickly as possible. About 50-60 employees came and worked overtime in all.

The Greyhound contacted a resident of the room in which the sprinkler was set off in, but he declined to comment.



DAN VERDEROSA/GREYHOUND

Students were forced to sleep in the multi purpose room at the Fitness and Aquatic Center while Campion Tower was being checked for structural safety.

really good job of cleaning it up, because when we were allowed back in to get our stuff it had already been cleaned up," said Jarritt Logan, a resident assistant in the building.

Students were shuttled to the FAC to sleep, but only about 40-60 students did so. Students who did not opt to do this chose to



MIKE TIRONE/GREYHOUND

The Belles and Chimes performed in Chordbusters on Friday and Saturday nights. Above, members of Chimes are performing a parody of "The Price is Right," during a string of skits that were performed before the singing started. Below, the Belles are singing.



MIKE TIRONE/GREYHOUND

BY JOHN DOUGHERTY
STAFF WRITER

This summer, Campus Ministry will offer an faith-based service immersion trip to Mandeville, Jamaica.

The primary difference between the Jamaica trip and Loyola's current immersion programs to Mexico and El Salvador is the former's focus and emphasis on faith.

The trip will leave the week after commencement, from May 23 to June 1. This is the program's first year.

"It's going to be a more explicit attempt to provide an immersion experience that links into the college mission of educating the entire college community to be 'men and women for and with others,'" said George Miller, associate director of Campus Ministry and one of the trip's leaders.

Along with Miller, Pete Rogers, director of spiritual development, and senior Adam McCabe will direct the trip. They have been discussing a trip like this for over two years.

"One of the goals we have is we want to invite Loyola College students to share their gifts with the people of Jamaica," Rogers said, "and be touched in a very spiritual way by the Jamaican people so that they can grow in the way they understand themselves and the world."

The trip will operate in conjunction with St. George's College, the Jesuit college in Kingston, Jamaica, one of the oldest college's in North America. The college has a program that brings other schools to Jamaica, and Loyola will use the same facilities that have been used by

Holy Cross and Boston College.

The trip will take participants to the Mandeville parish, the third-poorest parish in the Western Hemisphere.

Loyola's connection to Mandeville comes from Bishop Gordon Bennett, S.J. Formerly the urban vicar of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, and a close friend of Loyola, Bennett now leads the Mandeville parish.

One of the goals of the trip, is to establish a relationship with Jamaican communities. Specifically, Rodgers identified a college in Mandeville dedicated to training future teachers, and his hopes of establishing a concrete partnership with them.

"When people come back, if they're more grateful for the gifts they've been given, they'll be more generous. We want to establish an explicit link between what God has given us and how we can give," said Rogers, identifying another goal.

Because this is the program's pilot year, eight to 12 participants can make the trip.

Applications will be available this Wednesday in Cohn Hall, due Jan. 23.

An information session for potential applicants will be held in the Alumni Chapel on Jan. 19.

"We hope to attract interested persons from across the college community," Miller said. "Undergraduates, grad students, faculty, alumni; anyone from the extended Loyola College community can apply."

There will be a fee, although the cost per person is undecided as of this time.

"Part of the responsibility is fundraising and we'll be looking to the campus community for support," McCabe said.

Facebook generates concern among at LC

continued from the front page just as removed from the school as MySpace, Webshots or LiveJournal, etc.

"I feel like it is going down a path of invading privacy and that while this can be considered open to the public, its intention is clearly private by its structure," said freshman Dan Keebler.

One of the issues that has generated the most concern from the student body is administration looking through these online student accounts prior to judicial hearings and passing premature judgments on students in question.

"We felt that it was unprofessional and disrespectful to look up students online profiles prior to their hearing and base their judgments on a fabrication of a personality," said sophomore Stephanie Kalan.

Loyola College students aren't alone in their concerns. Issues about Facebook in particular have arisen in many other schools.

At Fischer College in Boston,

two students were expelled for creating a derogatory Facebook group about a campus police officer.

Students at the University of Miami are undergoing investigation for creating a Facebook group about swimming in a lake on campus, behavior which has been prohibited for 20 years.

So far at Loyola, the administration has not brought anyone to trial specifically over material on these online websites.

The resources have only been looked into if the student was already on trial for questionable behavior.

Punishments received still depend on rules broken and have not been increased due to evidence from these online resources as of yet.

Browning plans to meet with Vice President of Student Development, Dr. Susan Donovan, next week to discuss a possible policy on the use of these resources in judicial hearings.



Fields and Labella sat down with The Greyhound to update the situation with their Georgia O'Keeffe inspired painting.

Mural is a hot topic

BY TERRY FOY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Debate surrounding a mural painted by Cassandra Fields and Joe Labella in Newman West's ninth floor Percy House has swept across Loyola over the past few weeks, even finding its way into the pages of the Baltimore Sun on Nov. 20.

The controversy, which started after Rev. Martin O'Malley, S.J., a Jesuit-in-Residence on the floor, expressed displeasure with the trio of flowers that Fields and Labella labeled "Threesome." O'Malley originally wanted the mural painted over, but after a floor meeting the work was allowed to stay. No further decision has yet been made on its fate.

"I think, honestly, one of the

reasons things haven't happened recently is because people are so busy," O'Malley said. "Things get put back, but after finals I imagine something will happen."

Labella said that representatives from Student Life had been in contact with him and Fields, assuring him that the decision would be made by a group of people after further inspection.

"They told us that we'd be involved in the process and that they were sending pictures of our painting to California to be analyzed, so that was pretty exciting," Fields said.

Also exciting was the dialogue the work created around campus.

"We realize folks are sort of motivated to think about this on a couple of different sides, and that's important," O'Malley said.

Hardy sends off juniors

continued from the front page
classiest events I've been to on campus, and I've been to many events, invited and uninvited. This is great; grand."

Junior Class President Mike Hardy made a short speech during the event, wishing luck to those going abroad on "globetrotting adventures" and telling them how lucky they were to have such an opportunity.

Hardy also recited a short, free-form haiku, "Ya'll be leaving shortly/ So eat up but don't get too portly/ Act crazy but don't get deport-ly."

Hardy closed his speech by quoting Tupac Shakur, saying, "Live it up or give it up."

No members of the College administration or faculty attended the dinner, but a member of Event Services was present.

Avian flu could slam U.S.

BY TONY PUGH
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON — A severe avian flu outbreak would cost the U.S. economy \$625 billion — about 5 percent of the gross domestic product — as employers struggled with absenteeism, lost production and a sharp decline in consumer spending, a new government report has found.

The economic impact, driven in part by fear and confusion, would be equivalent to a recession, according to the Congressional Budget Office report.

The estimates are based on a pandemic that would sicken 90 million people in the United States and kill about 2 million.

The findings are the government's first attempt at a detailed look at the cost of what could be the most devastating public-health threat in nearly a century. The analysis, while neither definitive nor exact, provides a clear understanding in dollar terms of why an influenza pandemic presents not only a health crisis but also a threat to national security and the economy.

The CBO report estimates that 30 percent of the American population would become ill in a three-month outbreak, and about one-third of the U.S. work force would miss three weeks of work.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., who requested the CBO report, told a National Press Club gathering Thursday that the findings were a "grim prognosis" for a nation that's struggling to regain its economic footing.

"Voluntary quarantining would reduce turnout at restaurants, shopping malls, sporting events, churches and schools. Demand would fall by 80 percent in entertainment, arts, recreation, restaurants and lodging for a period of up to three months. Retail trade would fall by 25 percent. The demand for medical and hospital services would surge. And a fear

literally shut down," said Osterholm, the director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota. "Pharmaceutical supplies, including drugs and very important childhood vaccines not intended for influenza but for our everyday lives, will be in extreme short supply, if available at all. Health-care systems will be overwhelmed and, frankly, panic will reign."

The CBO report estimates that a mild outbreak, similar to the 1968 flu pandemic, would infect 75 million people, kill 100,000 and cost the economy \$160 billion, about 1.5 percent of the gross domestic product, the total value of goods and services.

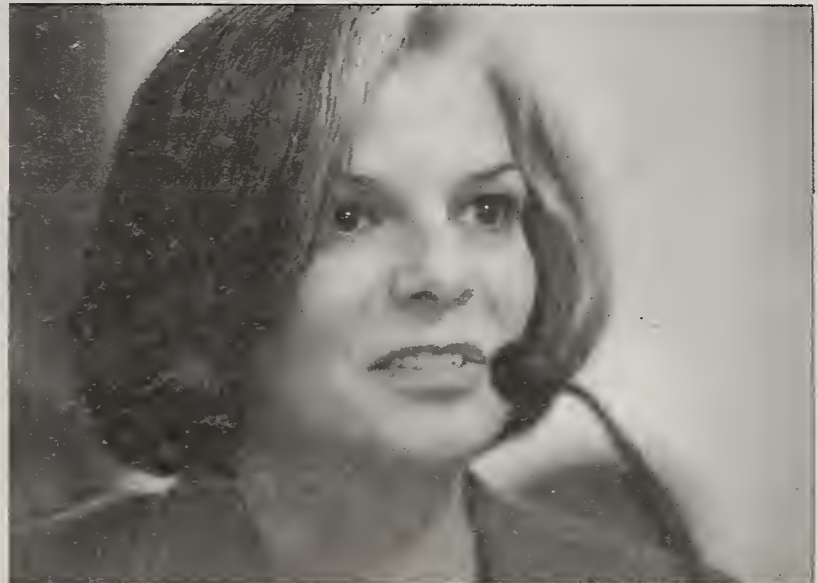
The Bush administration has asked Congress for

\$7.1 billion to prepare for a flu pandemic. Part of it would go to increase the U.S. stockpile of antiviral drugs such as Tamiflu from 2.3 million full treatments to 81 million.

President Bush also wants \$1.2 billion to purchase 20 million full treatments of an experimental H5N1 vaccine and \$2.8 billion for research into a cell-based flu vaccine that would allow American manufacturers to produce enough for the entire U.S. population within six months of a flu outbreak.

Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt said the CBO report shows "it is time for Congress to act on the president's request so we can immediately begin to implement our plans to prevent and contain a pandemic."

Giant drug company Roche Pharmaceuticals, which manufactures Tamiflu, is in discussions with several drug companies, including Teva Pharmaceuticals and Mylan Laboratories, to increase production of Tamiflu as demand increases worldwide, Roche spokesman Terry Hurley said.



CHUCK KENNEDY/KRT

Julie Gerberding, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention speaks on Capitol Hill in Washington on the role of U.S. agriculture in the control and eradication of avian influenza last month.

of travel, coupled with likely government-imposed restrictions, would lead to a dramatic decline in domestic travel as well as international travel," Frist said.

Avian flu has been centered mainly in Southeast Asia but is moving westward through migratory birds. The disease is transmitted from animal to animal, mostly among birds. Humans are contracting the highly lethal disease after close contact with infected animals.

If the virus, known as H5N1, mutates into a form that passes easily from person to person, the world would be hit with a catastrophic pandemic because virtually no one would have immunity to the new virus.

To date, 133 people in five Asian countries have contracted the avian flu virus and 68 have died, according to the World Health Organization.

In testimony Thursday on Capitol Hill, Dr. Michael Osterholm told the House International Relations Committee that a U.S. flu pandemic would affect the world.

"The global economy will

Merry Christmas

from

The Greyhound

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BRIDGET HANAHAN/ GREYHOUND

Lessons and Carols was held Friday night in the Alumni Chapel. The service featured the Loyola Chapel Choir performing seasonal music from a wide range of styles and traditions. Gifts for Presence for Christmas were collected at the event.

Congress renews Patriot Act

By ANN BABE
BADGER HERALD

MADISON, Wis. - After months of stalled negotiations, U.S. congressional leaders reached an agreement Thursday to renew the controversial Patriot Act, extending 16 provisions previously set to expire at year's end.

Since April of this year, when the Patriot Act's reauthorization process began, Congress has disagreed on the proper length of the law's renewal term, with the House calling for a sunset after 10 years and the Senate after four. In a compromise bill, congressional leaders agreed to accept the Senate version, determining the provisions will expire in four years unless renewed.

"The version of the Patriot Act that was signed today is a major disappointment," U.S. Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., said in a press release. "I appreciate that it includes four-year sunsets on ... controversial provisions, but merely sunseting bad law is not adequate. We need to make substantive changes to the law."

Passed in response to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the Patriot Act serves as the nation's major anti-terrorism law, providing the federal government with expanded investigative and surveillance powers.

Such expanded powers are absolutely essential, proponents say, to protect America from threats to its national security and to keep citizens safe and secure.

While most congressional leaders agreed upon the necessity of reasonable law-enforcement tools in the fight against terrorism, some Democratic legislators were concerned the Patriot Act's provisions bordered on unconstitutional.

The law's most controversial provisions include sections that some fear allow law-enforcement agencies to probe too deeply into the personal lives of innocent citizens, dangerously threatening their civil liberties.

The Patriot Act authorizes the use of roving wiretaps and allows the FBI to access private business records, including credit card, drivers' license and library records.

Feingold said he expected the compromise bill to face "strong bipartisan opposition" in the Senate, while also noting his personal mission to halt the reauthorization of the renewed Patriot Act.

Feingold was the only senator to vote against the original Patriot Act.

"I will do everything I can, including a filibuster, to stop this Patriot Act conference report, which does not include adequate safeguards to protect our constitutional freedoms," Feingold said.

Others also agree the Patriot Act as it currently exists is in need of major revision.

"The [Patriot Act's] definition of terrorism is very broad and can apply to groups that are not a threat to national security," University of Wisconsin political science professor Donald Downs said. "In giving the government the power to go after terrorists, you're also giving them the power to go after regular citizens."

Downs said he would like to see the law's definition of terrorism narrowed down to avoid the "slippery slope" scenario that endangers civil liberties, but maintained his support for the Patriot Act in principle.

"When it comes to terrorism, I think the government does deserve more power," Downs said. "Rights themselves are open to interpretation ... when you have a situation of national security."



Best of luck on finals, and have a wonderful holiday break!

~The Student Government Association



**Here's a look at what's coming
your way this Spring:**

Forum Fridays!

**Ignatian Heritage
Week!**

Lovola SuperFan!

**Welcome Back
for Abroad Students!**

**March Basketball
Classic!**

Lovolapalooza!

**NEW SGA
WEBSITE!**



— THE GREYHOUND EDITORIAL —

'Tis the season for giving

With the holidays quickly approaching, Loyola College was reminded of the true spirit of the season last week as students banded together to help those in need off-campus while Loyola employees worked to help needy students on campus.

The Center for Values and Services, in conjunction with Campus Ministry, helped collect presents for poor families in the Baltimore area as part of the Presence for Christmas. The gifts were presented at the annual Lessons and Carols event last week in an impressive display.

Early last Tuesday morning, after an incident involving a fire alarm sprinkler in Campion Tower, College employees came to campus to help students displaced by the flooding at 1:30 a.m. Such selfless actions were crucial to efforts to provide temporary housing for Campion residents.

While actions like those taken Monday night will hopefully not be needed in the future, the spirit of helping others should remain active throughout the College community. Jesuit ideals certainly fit this time of year, but they should not be restrained within the bounds of Christmastime.

The Greyhound recognizes that Loyola students do many things to help the less fortunate, but the majority concentrates this spirit within the holiday season. But poverty is not a seasonal phenomenon. Programs like Presence for Christmas are exceptional and The Greyhound commends all involved, but the spirit of the program should be extended year-round. The poor do not cease being needy after New Year's Day, and we should not stop giving and helping after we take down our Christmas decorations.

Last week The Greyhound reported on the suspension of Loyola's Care-A-Van program, which helps feed Baltimore's homeless. Programs like Care-A-Van are needed to make a difference in the community in the post-holiday lull and beyond, and The Greyhound supports CVS in their efforts to get the program back and running.

As Christmas steadily approaches and Loyola students prepare for finals, it is important to keep in mind those less fortunate and remember that as they do not stop needing after the holidays, charitable efforts must continue on our part.

■ That time of year again



Compassion needed for holiday season

During this time of year, we are each called upon to demonstrate the merit of our character. We each consider ourselves concerned for those less fortunate than us and we dedicate our efforts to worthy causes such as "Presence for Christmas" and the CARES food-drive by giving both causes our time and our money.

The student body's capacity for kindness and charity is boundless. As evidence, we donated \$10,600 in one day for AIDS relief. From a Jesuit community, I would expect nothing less. In spite of this evidence, it astounds me how quickly we can turn our backs on our fellow classmates.

In less than three days after the Campion sprinkler incident on Dec. 5, there was a Facebook group dedicated to the debasement of the person who accidentally set off the sprinkler, whom I'll refer to as Fred -- to protect his identity -- and his roommates.

The group is called, "Survivors of the Campion Towers Sprinkler Incident of '05". Currently, the group has over 80 members with its ranks increasing daily. At first

glance, the group merely appeared to be a humorous poke at the incident. Further investigation revealed otherwise. The original description, which was recently changed, apparently due to angry outcries against the group, began.

"For all of you out there who feel they owe a debt of gratitude (or an a** kicking) to room 7** for the night of December 5, 2005, when they were kind enough to give all of Campion Towers an opportunity to experience what it's like to be a refugee/homeless person."

I would like to point out that just because this description has been modified it does not change the fact that most members joined under the original description. Although I am pleased that the premise has changed, one should question why there is even a need for such a group.

Every day that the group stands, it serves as a constant reminder to "Fred" and his friends that they are now alienated from their home.

People need to stop and put themselves into Fred's shoes. How awful would you feel if you caused

an entire building to be evacuated for a night?

How horrible would it be to know that because of your momentary lapse of judgement, the belongings of roughly 80 other people were destroyed?

Upon joining this group, the original members were practically saying that Fred deserves to be ostracized from the community, which is exactly what this group does.

Does Fred really deserve to have his mistake rubbed in his nose everyday?

The bottom line is that no one deserves such an unforgiving treatment of estrangement, especially at Loyola.

I think Fred's paid enough for his accident and I think a little compassion in Campion is in order.

Sean O'Neill '08
Spanish

THE GREYHOUND

LOYOLA COLLEGE IN MARYLAND'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER
HTTP://WWW.LOYOLAGREYHOUND.COM

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POLL QUESTION OF THE WEEK:
Who has the best room on campus?
(See pages 14 & 15 for more info.)
Log on today and vote!!

- Newman E701
- Newman W905
- Gardens B 302
- Newman W201

Last issue's poll: (results not scientific)
What is your favorite type of snowball?

- "Packed tight, just right for accuracy." (72%)
- Mushy and brown, to add insult to injury. (12%)
- Icy and Hard, to leave a bruise. (8%)
- Snowballs? I make snow angels. All we need is "lurve" (8%)

LoCo security falls short of stated goals and purposes

If you read your e-mail, you should be aware that there have recently been two assaults on Loyola students on Notre Dame Lane -- the road that goes between McAuley Hall and the York Road Parking

JAYBARTLETT

Lot. It is particularly notable that these attacks did not occur at 3 a.m. as some disoriented and intoxicated student irresponsibly attempting to stumble home after a night of drinking. They occurred before 9 p.m. on weekday nights, at times when classes were still in session.

Whenever a crime is committed around the Evergreen campus, be it against a student or not, the security measures currently in place must be closely scrutinized. Lt. Jamie Cheatem mentioned increased patrols as a part of the LCPD response to the tragedies that occurred at Johns Hopkins last year. Also, all students have surely noticed the dramatic increase in video surveillance around campus. Yet, we continually hear of burglaries and assaults and trespassers found living in the Student Center. Have these new and "improved" security measures actually made us safer?

To me, it seems not. Security cameras can be very comforting to see, especially to parents of prospective students touring the campus. However, common sense says their main effectiveness is not in preventing crime but in catching the perpetrators of an act already committed. While some evildoers may be deterred, such as those who would rob their neighbor's dorm, teaching students to properly operate a door

lock would be more effective. One who believes that cameras effectively deter crime bases his confidence in the assumption that all criminals are always rational human beings; I think it goes without saying that this is just not true. Indeed, did the cameras in the Student Center stop a man from taking up residence there? (And isn't the more important part of that story not the fact that he was discovered, but that it took nearly a week for someone to do so?)

Furthermore, what's a camera going to do during an attack? Unless there is some technology we all don't know about, a camera cannot stop a crime in progress. Even assuming that someone is watching a live feed (which it seems no one was during the week that man lived in the Student Center) and can radio for a unit to respond, it is unlikely that such a process can prevent an attack, burglary, etc. from being carried out. Contrarily, an LCPD officer patrolling the area could both stop the crime in progress and also perhaps prevent the evil conduct in the first place just by his or her presence.

Thus, manpower is the most important tool the LCPD has in preventing crime on campus. Unfortunately, even the "increased patrols" Lt. Cheatem refers to are not getting the job done. I don't believe this is because of any lack of effort or dedication among the members of the Campus Police force. Rather, I believe that the tactics employed are faulty.

For example, a student walking back from a night class to Ahern, McAuley or Aquinas must walk the distance between the library and their residence. As both a student who makes this walk and a shuttle driver driving through the vicinity three nights a week, I

have the opportunity to experience this regularly. The only noticeable security measures in this area are the LCPD cars parked behind the library, commonly sitting side-by-side in the corner of the parking lot. Because I refuse to accept that the officers lack dedication or professionalism and because of the consistency of this occurrence, I assume that this is a specific tactic employed by the LCPD. Truly, what else could explain the frequency of units locating themselves there?

I feel compelled to question this approach -- one officer seems to be watching over pitch-black Alumnae Field, while the other has an obscured view of the path where students walk back and forth between the eastside residences and the rest of campus.

Perhaps campus security would be better served if one unit located itself near the entrance to the library and the other patrolled a more high-traffic area than a dark field...

With all due respect to the crime-fighting abilities of my coworkers at Parking and Transportation, I'm not sure if the campus is best protected by us shuttle drivers as the first line of defense, which is regularly the case when sectors of campus are

neglected by patrols.

It is important to the safety of students and employees of Loyola that the officers of the LCPD, not video cameras, be a prevalent and conspicuous force in and around campus. There is no substitute for a well-trained, professional security force to protect the safety and well being of the Loyola community.

Just this week, units have been along Notre Dame Lane for the protection of students who live in the area and/or who have their cars parked at the York Road Lot. I applaud this effort, however belated, and implore the LCPD to make this a permanent measure and not just a temporary response to be abandoned when everyone forgets about the recent assaults.



TIM HILLMANN AND MIKE BULLWINKLE/GREYHOUND

Loyola Campus Police say they have increased thier patrols. But complaints of lack of security remain.

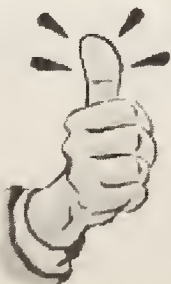
THUMBS

BY EDMUNDDUNN & MARYHATCH

Tightrope Walker -- When you're sitting in your finance class and scouring the room for any form of distracting entertainment, what better way to get you through class then to peer out of the window and watch Loyola's very own tightrope walker. This aspiring Cirque Du Soleil not only spices up the academic quad, but classes in Sellinger as well. So thanks Tightrope-Walking-Kid, and best of luck in your career

The Ride Board by Ford -- Being in the neighborhood of Salsa Rico brings to mind the savory smells of Mexico and that magical weekend in Cabo. But as you run to the bathroom after your burrito, you may be struck by an oft-forgotten resource: the Ford Board. If you're looking for a ride home or the holidays or someone to ease the burden of gas prices, advertise yourself on the Ride Board.

Gauntlet II -- Even though Road Rules and Real World have lost some of their luster, when they come together in the Gauntlet, magic happens. Whether it's Ruthie getting wasted or the fact that Mark is still doing these reality challenges, they are a drama fest that we can't seem to take our eyes away from. Nothing makes us happier than to see 30-something reality stars win Saturn Ions and Chili's Dollars.



baltimore.metromix.com



Loco PoPo NoNo GoGo -- Apparently it's within LCPD's jurisdiction to write up kids who are legally drinking off campus, but it's not okay for them to escort students through a neighborhood which has seen several assaults of Loyola students recently. If it's past shuttle hours and you want to get from Gallagher to the west side of campus, don't even bother trying to flag down a campus police car. Instead, walk to York Road (one of the most dangerous roads in Baltimore) and flag down a cab.

Campion Swimming Pool -- Well at least we know the sprinkler systems in Campion work. We're sure that being forced out of your room into the cold and snow and having slumber parties at the FAC is just a hoot, but you still have to deal with all of your wet stuff. So to those who returned to a marsh of a room, we sympathize with you, one of our friends spilled his Nalgene all over his floor.

Mis-Matched Salutations -- "Hey, whats up?" "Good, how are you?" You know that you've done it as you pass people to and from class. There are some times when you just can't get together quick enough to muster up an appropriate response to a very simple question.

Surely,
you have...



- Written a really good paper in on any subject!
- Completed an interesting project in one of your classes!
- Worked on some other creative/research/scholarly project!

If you answered YES to any of these questions, you should consider submitting your work to the

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EASY to apply
LOOKS GREAT on your resume
YOU CAN CHOOSE -- formal presentation or informal poster

Check out the website at www.loyola.edu/usrsc for more information, or ask any faculty member if you have any questions.

The Colloquium takes place on Friday, March 31, 2006.

The application deadline is January 31st, 2006.

Study abroad offers new perspective on U.S.-Europe relations

As the semester comes to a close and I prepare to spend the next four months in Rome, the center of one of the world's largest religious institutions, surrounded by

NICK BROWN

buildings and monuments old enough to have known Julius Caesar, I am forced to wonder how much I'll change, how much I'll learn, and how likely I am to come back as one of those cynical curmudgeons (if I'm not one already), convinced that America can't light a candle to the beauties of Europe.

I've had a number of conversations with a number of people on the subject. They always end up being about politics. I have either been told that as a liberal, I will find Europe is open-minded, refreshing or that I will realize that the rest of the world is just as flawed and stressed out as we are.

My ultimate belief is that study-abroad students shouldn't worry about politics. They -- we -- should just enjoy the experience for what it is.

But who am I kidding? I can't resist an attempt to tackle the question posed above. How different from American culture is European culture? Will I find that Europeans hate us? Or will I find that they are more similar to us than different? Consider this the first of many columns over the course of the next semester that try, however indirectly, to answer those questions.

Governmentally, Italy is a republic. Their people have decision-making power, but not quite as much as Americans. A small percentage of the legislative branch is reserved for proportional representation, which the American political system lacks. This leaves room for more than two policymaking parties, and in Italy, there happen to be four major players.

Most of Italy's political pressure comes from the left side of the political spectrum, and therefore, their policies are mostly liberal. With the exception of the conservative Catholic Church, liberal farmers, merchants and trade unions are the most influential groups.

So it makes sense that Italy would be opposed to the Iraq war. But that isn't really a big deal -- opposition from across the Atlantic is nothing new, or news-worthy.

What is both of those things is a U.S. ally whose people have more confidence and trust in Osama Bin Laden than President Bush, as recent polls have revealed in Jordan and Morocco. I found no data claiming that this holds true in Italy, though nor did I find any indication that it does not. Either way, they're skeptical of American government.

But let's take the focus off Italy and put it on everyone East of the Atlantic but West of India. And North of the Mediterranean. And East of the Red Sea (What an obnoxious way to say "Europe and the Middle East"). The majority of people in those regions look upon the United States in an unfavorable light. In the web of theories and theses that comprise our efforts to find a reason for this, I think the answer is simple:

We don't understand the increasing globalization that is slowly becoming the new political standard.

Historians will tell you that America is a modern empire. Many political scientists will tell you that an empire isn't possible in the

modern world. Attempting an empire today is like your arm attempting to control your entire body -- physically impossible.

The world is, indeed, one body. Oceans are no longer insurmountable barriers. Communication is now instantaneous. Money changes hands with the click of a mouse -- even if the hands it passes through are thousands of miles apart.

But American leaders have not realized this. They have decided to go against the advice of everyone else, and they have aggressively asserted that if a nation is not with us, they are inherently against us.

We don't see the dangers that come with this approach, but smaller nations do. It makes sense -- we don't notice when we step on ants, but the ants certainly notice. The bigger something is, the smaller something else is in proportion. And in the midst of our aggressive "crusade" against a particular enemy, we have scared dozens of innocent nations into believing that because of our unwillingness to listen to dissent, one wrong move -- even an accidental one -- will get them killed.

In laymen's terms, we're acting like bullies. And that's the reason for international displeasure.

But "hate" is a strong word, and the truth is, most Europeans understand that. Most can separate George Bush from the rest of America. Most understand that as study abroad students, we don't want to wear out our welcome, and we respect the traditions of other cultures.

So no, they don't hate us. But they are absolutely furious with our government. Because they understand what we refuse to -- that our actions pose more danger to the stability of the global economy than solutions to the problem of terrorism.

All this considered, what do I expect from my trip abroad? I expect to get a lot of guff. I expect to be questioned, as if I have answers. I expect, now and then, to be laughed at.

But I don't expect to be hated. As I hand the title of Opinions Editor over to my friend and colleague Matt Lindeboom, I do so confident that I'll still be able to write columns next semester, not about political fury but about cultural and societal factors that shed light on the need for international trust and peace. My priorities in Rome are to open up my mind, to listen, but not to judge or grow defensive. I want to notice the scenery and let myself be freaked out by the fact that I may be touching the same pillar that Caesar touched two millennia ago.

That is why Loyola College provides opportunities for students to study abroad. Not to argue, but to consider. Instead of learning about European-American relations, we will experience them. And that need not be fuel for a left-wing or right-wing fire. It should be, simply, a great experience.

Send us your letters

greyhound@loyola.edu

The deadline for letter submission is Friday at noon for Tuesday's publication. Please include class year and major along with your letter.

Campion incident calls to mind New Orleans tragedy

Last Monday night, about 600 Loyola students became seven-hour refugees. Water poured down the walls inside of Campion Tower from an accidentally broken sprinkler head, and students evacuated the flooding building.

MATTLINDEBOOM

In short order, this incident placed in glaring perspective what it was for students to worry whether or not they would have homes to return to. For one night, Loyola students tasted a very small portion of the New Orleans flood disaster.

But unlike many of those displaced in New Orleans, our friends were uncommonly fortunate in their circumstances. Students in other buildings graciously opened up their rooms for people to sleep in, RAs led their residents beautifully, and the damage to personal belongings in those

rooms affected was less severe than students feared. Everyone had a place to go, and no one was left outside.

The hallways in Campion may still reek of rotting carpet and mold, but carpets will be replaced, and slowly but surely the stink is wafting out and fading into the now freezing air. For the most part, we are returning to normalcy -- though, of course, some students are still struggling with loss

of personal items.

And yet, even as Campion residents were able to return to their rooms (just in time for class), I cannot help but remember that much of New Orleans remains in shambles, and the situation appears to be heading in no other direction, but down. Loyola's response to the flooding of Campion was quick and effective, but after four months

moment is upon us when a major American city will die, leaving nothing but a few shells for tourists to visit like a museum."

There is no doubt that the delayed response in getting aid to the refugees was atrocious. But now is the time to rebuild New Orleans, and today our representatives in government must live up to their promises.

Congress allocated \$51.8 billion to rebuild areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina, and President Bush pledged support for the victims of Katrina.

"We will stay as long as it takes to help citizens rebuild their communities and their lives. And all who question the future of the Crescent City need to know: There is no way to imagine America without New Orleans, and this great city will rise again," said Bush.

Despite these lofty gestures, questions are the only things

that have risen from New Orleans. Questions linger about those who have disappeared, and where evacuees have ended up. The official death toll stands at 1,300 people. However, *USA Today* reported that 6,600 people remain missing or dead.

Questions remain on how the reconstruction will be accomplished, and where billions of dollars in aid has really gone.



CHRIS OCHSNER/KANSAS CITY STAR

Reconstruction of New Orleans has been slow, and questions still remain on the whereabouts of more than 6,000 people, says *USA Today*.

of tepid effort from the U.S. government, funding for the rebuilding of New Orleans is drying up, there is little to no leadership guiding the reconstruction, and people are still missing.

The *New York Times* writes, "We are about to lose New Orleans. Whether it is a conscious plan to let the city rot until no one is willing to move back or honest paralysis over difficult questions, the

Following the disaster, companies like Halliburton received Iraq-style no bid and restricted bid government contracts. There was little to no competition from other companies, even those local to New Orleans who needed the work following the disaster. Four months and \$52 billion later, where is the progress?

Just as we look to see how the Loyola administration will "rebuild" Campion's marshy floors and water stained walls, the American people need to continue to watch the administrations efforts in the reconstruction of New Orleans.

A comprehensive plan must be created, and an effective leader must put the plan into action. America needs New Orleans back.

BARK BACK!

Do you want to respond to this or any column in *The Greyhound*? Send a letter to the editor!

Email your letters to www.loyolagreyhound.com

Please limit letters to 500 words and include your name, class year and major with the letter.

Leave politics alone 'til after the non-denominational holidays

Three risqué flowers, two companies for girls and a partridge in a holiday tree. Yes, the Christmas season is upon us.

Maybe it's the cold weather, or maybe it's the year's end, but everyone seems to

CLAIRE HOFFMAN

be offending one another an awful lot lately, both on campus and off. The Tiny Tims of the world have been replaced by a whole bunch of Scrooges.

First, Santa's got one present crossed off his list with the recent American Girl doll controversy. If you haven't seen the images of little girls clutching their dolls as their mothers march by with signs protesting the company, allow me to fill you in.

Felicity, Samantha and our other pint-sized pals have been raising money for a company called Girls, Inc. This company's goal is simply to celebrate girlhood by providing programs and advocacy for young girls and their parents.

Sounds great, right? Well, apparently, if you look really hard, the company condones lesbianism, opposes abstinence-only education, and is pro-choice. Uh-oh.

Don't get me wrong. I respect the opinions of those protesting. While I don't see a problem with Girls Inc., I do see why others would, especially if they don't want their young children exposed to such ideas.

But is it really necessary to bring the dolls into it? American Girl is supporting a company that supports girls of all kinds. This doesn't mean that they are going to turn their consumers into lesbians, or that they'll force their pro-choice opinions on

them. I doubt any children would have even known about the issue if their parents hadn't brought it up. Let's not let grown-up arguments affect the toys children are getting under the Christmas tree.

Oops, did I say Christmas tree? I meant Holiday tree! As if Iraq wasn't enough, we're now in a "War on Christmas," where officials in Boston, Toronto, and other cities are renaming their decorated evergreens "Holiday trees".

The question is, had anyone even been offended by the phrase "Christmas Tree" in the first place? Last time I checked, people who didn't celebrate the holiday didn't stick ten-foot shrubbery in their living rooms.

I can't wait for the day when Menorahs become "candlesticks," Easter eggs become "pretty dyed things," and Independence Day becomes "the day we eat hot dogs and look at fireworks" (I mean, we wouldn't want to offend the British!).

On the other side of the issue, certain Christian rights groups have threatened to boycott Wal-Mart and other retailers because clerks greet them with "Happy Holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas." They want to force retailers to put the Christ back in Christmas.

How Jesus would feel about having his name used to sell electronics and toilet paper is anyone's guess, but it seems like there's no pleasing anyone this holiday season.

The same climate of hypersensitivity

exists on campus as well. How about the recent controversy over the painting in Newman? Two juniors on the 9th floor of Newman East painted a Georgia O'Keefe-inspired painting of three flowers on the wall. Georgia O'Keefe is known for her paintings of flowers that resemble genitalia.

The painting in Newman is of three flowers. No one would have seen the sexual

undertones of the modern definition of the word "threesome." But if you consult the good old dictionary, the definition for this word that has caused so much fuss is, simply, "three things." We're not ten years old. A painting on a wall isn't going to inspire college students to have more sex than they're already having.

I am not saying that little girls should be taught to have abortions, or that Christmas is the only important holiday, or that sexual artwork should be plastered all over campus. I'm just saying that in these three cases, we need to keep some perspective. There are so many other things going on in the world right now. Why are people concentrating on such insignificant issues?

This holiday season, let's worry about the Katrina victims who still have no place to go, or the more than 2,000 Americans killed in the Iraq war so far, with no end in sight. Let's worry about the 1,000th execution since the reinstatement of capital punishment. Heck, let's even worry about the Campion flooding and how unprepared the school was for such an event.

Let's see a painting as a work of art, a doll as a fun toy to play with and an old tradition as a nice symbol of the season. This recent intolerance and outrage is way over the top. We're going to have enough bickering at the Chrismahanakwanzaakuh dinner table with our relatives. Why start now? Bah humbug.



JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A boycott of American Girl for support of a pro-choice organization is highlighting partisan tensions this holiday season.

connotations (or, for that matter, the flowers -- it's hard to tell just what the painting is supposed to be), if the students hadn't named it "Threesome."

In a recent *Greyhound* article, the students claimed they were trying to be funny. I am not denying the sexual

Moral issues remain after successful face transplant

Just a couple of weeks ago, French doctors successfully completed the first transplant of a face. Using a donor with similar skin color and texture, surgeons attached a nose, mouth and chin to a



JASMINE JENKINS

disfigured woman who had been mauled by a dog last May. The woman, who still remains anonymous, had been living with a face so seriously injured that she could not talk properly and her wounds were inoperable.

Members of the European medical community are hailing this transplant as a great success. Peter Butler, a plastic surgeon at the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead, North London, told the United Kingdom's Press Association that the transplant "is a great step forward for European science and medicine."

Butler is certainly not alone in his opinion that this surgery is a great medical advance. Indeed, many are hopeful that this transplant will give way to similar surgeries in the future, providing new faces for severely disfigured patients.

The team of doctors who performed the transplant included not just surgeons, but also psychologists, who counseled the woman both before and after surgery. Their primary concern was preparing her for the change in appearance that would result from receiving a new face and the risks involved in any transplant procedure.

Ethical questions have also been raised as a result of this surgery. When asked about

his moral concerns, Dr. Daniel Sokol, researcher in medical ethics at Imperial College, London, told CNN that the main ethical issue was one of informed consent. "Did the patient give adequately informed consent to the procedure?" he asked. "Did she understand the risks and implications of the transplant? If the answer to these questions is 'yes,' and I see no obvious reason why it should be otherwise, then all those involved should be congratulated for their skill and courage."

The "risks" to which Dr. Sokol refers include those risks that are typical in transplant surgery: rejection of the new organs, blood flow problems, and long-term use of medicines, which may cause cancer.

Certainly, patients who face these threats should be fully informed before deciding to undergo a facial transplant, but perhaps in focusing solely on the person whose decision it is to receive a new face, those who have so emphatically praised this surgery as a great advancement in medical science have lost focus on a key part of the ethical argument: the person whose face has been donated.

In order to salvage one woman's face, surgeons used the face of another. After receiving consent from her family, doctors took the lower portion of a comatose French woman's face. The woman, who had been declared brain-dead, apparently had skin similar in texture and color to that of the woman who received her face. She now remains in a hospital bed without a face.

I most certainly cannot speak for people who seem so excited by the implications of this new advancement, but I wonder why they don't seem to be disturbed by the image of a faceless woman, who, without giving consent, lost her nose, mouth and chin to someone she doesn't even know and for a cause she might not even support.

If procedures like this one continue, face donation may one day be very common.

Donors of facial tissue must have a beating heart at the time of donation; therefore, the possibility of hospitals full of faceless people, debilitated for some reason or another, is not as bizarre as it may have once seemed.

While doctors like Sokol seem only to focus on the quality of life that can be improved in those receive a new face, ethical concerns about this procedure must include the would-be face donors. Inevitably, many people will argue that those donors would most likely be brain-dead or very near death and would therefore not need their faces. Perhaps they don't need their faces, but something must be said for respecting the physical element of these individuals' identities.

It is true that we often focus on who people are on the "inside," citing the intangible characteristics as the ones that truly count, but the scope of human experience includes

more than just that which we cannot see. Though there is nothing wrong with focusing on what we cannot see, we must recognize the integrity and the importance in that which we can.

What makes the face different from other organs or the blood is its connection to our identity. It is perhaps the most important part of our physical being. It is able to communicate even more effectively than spoken or written language. It is the way we recognize each other and ourselves. It conveys every emotion in a way that seems so simple, yet so complex all at once. In life and in death, the face is inextricably tied to who we are.

To lose a face, like the French woman who lost hers to a dog, is a horrible tragedy that no one deserves. But is taking someone else's face really a way to solve the problem, or is it a way to transfer the tragedy from one individual to another?

STRONG
LC
Truths

**72% of LC students
do not use marijuana at all,
or use it very rarely
(less than six times a year).**

2005 CORE Alcohol and Drug Survey
Questions: Current Study Period: 12 months ending 10/05

Torture not a valid way of achieving peace in our time

By AJAITA SHAH
TUFTS DAILY

MEDFORD, Mass. - In a world of terrorism and unknown threats, how far would you go to create a world of perfect peace and happiness? Would you be able to torture one child to save mankind? Ivan Karamazov, Fyodor Dostoevsky's realist and atheist from "The Brothers Karamazov," has challenged international leaders and societies with this paradox of torture, and I challenge you. A yes implies the justification of torture; the torture of the innocent. By permitting the destruction of the innocent, are we preventing the destruction of mankind? What are the implications of torturing the innocent? Are there exceptions to permit torture?

Those who practice it tell us that this is the price that needs to be paid by the suffering few in order to guarantee happiness to the rest of society, the enormous majority given security and well-being by those horrors inflicted in some dark cellar. Nevertheless, I would say no to torture; whether we are facing the end of the world or the possibility of saving lives, there is an inherent problem with saying yes to Karamazov.

Are you willing to take the responsibility of destroying peace?

Karamazov's question initially challenged me because it is a conundrum that I had to consciously analyze before finding my answer. On the one hand, we are faced with the potential happiness for mankind and the rest of eternity, but on the other, it is at the expense of an innocent victim.

I would become what I fear most: a

torturer. Similar to the torturer, I would be eliminating the difference between the guilty and the innocent.

It is frightening to think that the countless citizens in the world who, if confronted by Karamazov's challenge would consciously be able to accept that their desire for peace and prosperity would come in the expense of an innocent child's horrifying nightmare. But I offer you the only reality: it is too high



PAUL ASSAKER/KRT

An Iraqi detainee sits behind razor-wire fences that close off high-security compounds at the U.S. run Camp Bucca.

of a price to consider the conscious mind of accepting such a sacrifice.

What if the one person that has to be tortured is guilty? What if peace and prosperity comes by torturing a man who has committed mass murder? Would the answer to Karamazov's question still be a no? When faced with such a challenge, I suggest you think of Beslan.

Beslan was the most horrific terrorist act by a group of "freedom fighters" who massacred children. They tried justifying their act stating that if these children were

sacrificed, their people, who were undermined and possibly tortured as well, would attain freedom and prosperity. But is this freedom? We are creating a world where there is no separation of innocent bystanders anymore; even children are obvious targets creating a limitless climate of fear.

What if we decide we can in fact become a torturer just once; it makes sense since

we are beginning to think like most torturers. They, just like us, do not think of themselves as evil but as guardians of the common good who are dedicated enough to get their hands dirty and endure perhaps some sleepless nights in order to deliver eventual peace. Sometimes, is it okay to live with Dirty Hands?

We can justify our actions by feeling guilty later; sometimes we have to think of the tasks at

hand and worry about the repercussions later.

Maybe we can accept certain types of torture; but what are its limits? How is torture measured? Is it a verbal insult, a slap in the face, or physical abuse only? Does the circumstance define the level of torture and willingness to act? What about terrorism?

Sometimes we try to define the evils in the world, and though torturing is evil, there is greater evil. The United States has used questionable methods of interrogating detainees to find answers in the aftermath

of Sept. 11, 2001.

They differentiated torture and interrogation for a more state-protective definition. In other words, we accepted the American soldiers humiliating Iraqi detainees because they used lighter means of torturing. But is there a distinction? It is internationally agreed that torture should not be permitted, but is it an option based on necessity? Charles Fried, the Harvard law professor, says that if we're to save mankind then it would be justified to torture - but does that mean torturing a terrorist's innocent child?

It is a troublesome point because it allows man to do anything if it deemed necessary to prevent trouble from brewing.

Torture should never be justified, no matter what the reason. While people argue that there is always one exception, I do not think there are any legitimate excuses. Karamazov creates a scenario where many would argue the outcome outweighs the scenario; one would suffer moral guilt if they are the reason there isn't peace in the world, but I think the price makes one's hands too dirty.

Torturing an innocent child for the greater good is inconceivable; no matter what the reasoning. We must set precedence by creating standards and regulations that abolish torture altogether; if we accept even one scenario of torturing the innocent, we are one step closer to creating the climate of fear.

The outcome of torturing an innocent child will never bring about peace and prosperity, only misery and guilt. It is imperative to maintain the rejection of torture; it is not a last resort, but rather, an unthinkable option.



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On the Quad

What does Santa want from Mrs. Claus this Christmas?

By Kristen Cesiro



"A Bowflex and personal trainer to burn off those cookies."

Alessandra Biaggi, '08

Communications and PR, and Shelly Harrison, '08, Communications



"An appearance on Pimp My Sleigh."

Jeff Casey, '09, Business and Marie Desaye, '09, Undecided



"Some lovin'."

Joe Labella '07
English



"An Xbox 360."

Kevin Dougherty, '06
Communications and Digital Media



"A joy ride in the sleigh."

Scott Williams, '08
Policital Science

Do you want to be in "On The Quad?" Look for Kristen Cesiro or Nick Brown on the quad, Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Science an unnecessary tool in justifying faith

As ridiculous as the following statement may seem, after reading the following argument I think you will probably grasp what I am getting at. I am here to pledge my undying support for the Flying Spaghetti Monster.

MATTGWIN

Yes, that's right, the Flying Spaghetti Monster (FSM). You may be wondering what the FSM is, well, let me give you the religion that is sweeping the land. The FSM is none other than the designer of the universe of course! FSM, created by Bobby Henderson, is a religion that firmly believes that a FSM is the all knowing omnipresent maker of our universe. Wait, before you are completely hooked let me give you some facts about the fascinating religion.

- Trees, a mountain, and a midget started the earth.
- The FSM made up evolution.
- Rises in natural disasters are directly linked to the decline in pirate attacks.
- Full "pirate regalia" is necessary when teaching the religion (I'm wearing mine as we speak).
- His "noodley appendage" guides human affairs.
- Please, at the end of a prayer say Ramen not Amen (noodle, get it?).
- Henderson is a prophet
- Heaven has a beer volcano and a stripper factory.
- Friday's are religions holidays.

Okay, enough of this façade, here is the deal. Henderson created this faux religion as a way to spread awareness about Intelligent Design -- the concept that evolution alone can not be used in science classes to explain the universe. Mention of

a higher power is essential. Henderson disagrees adamantly. He claims that if Intelligent Design is placed into the curriculum, FSM should be to.

I, along with many writers, religious folk and academics support, Henderson. His off the wall religion has received coverage from a number of national publications, including my personal favorite, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Because this is an opinions column, I suppose I better begin to stop with the facts and let the good times roll. I have gone to Catholic schools my entire life, and I am a firm believer in my faith; but, there is a difference between choosing to practice your faith and being forced to believe in a generic statement such as "high power." Basically, religion and science should be kept separate. Let's be serious for a second, I think there is a little thing in our constitution called "separation of church and state."

For a scientific theory to be taught, it must go through a rigorous process of experimentation.

Well, this is the problem with any religion: it cannot be proved or disproved based on scientific empirical data; that is why you have a faith. If you honestly believe, then you do not need proof.

I do in fact believe that there is a God, and he created the universe, but that is just my opinion and that is the wonderful thing about the policies of religion in America. I mean, come on, even Scientology is a religion (can't go wrong with a shameless Scientology bust). If you go to a public school you do not need that forced upon you. And if you go to public school, but you have religion in your life as well, then there are programs for that. Let's flip it. If

you go to a school that is religiously affiliated, then what is the point of religion class if the teachers are preaching Intelligent Design?

Back to the FSM discussion. Obviously I do not believe in the FSM, and I am assuming that most people who read about "Him" do not. What Henderson is getting at is the protecting of Church/State separation. If we think about this historically, it will be detrimental if we allow Intelligent Design to forge its way into science through manipulation of the law and not through empirical testing. Hypothetically speaking, let's say that it passes. Fast forward to 100 years from now. One of the major religions has a support of over 50 percent of the country. Well, if we are already teaching God in science class, why not say which God, I mean we have already said God should be in science, what is the harm in naming him if 50 percent of the country or more firmly worships this God.

Some people would call me and Henderson supporters liberal atheists. That simply has nothing to do with it. There are many scientists that firmly support Intelligent Design, and on the flip side there are many good holy people, secular and religious, that feel that this sanctifying separation needs to remain.

In the end I believe that it comes down to fear of the unknown. If you support the Intelligent Design ideals then you are most likely trying to define your faith through faulty facts.

Religion is not fact. Personally, I like to think that my ideas about religion are faith based alone. I do not need a scientific explanation for my beliefs. So in the FSM is your thing, than alls I have to say is, "Ramen brother!"

FOX punditry flirts with partisan bias extremes

By RYAN ASH & ELLIOTT ASH
DAILY TEXAN

AUSTIN, Texas - A much-loved punching bag of Fox News commentators is Howard Dean. On the Dec. 6 episode of "Fox and Friends," conservative pundit Erich "Mancow" Muller didn't disappoint. He laid into the Democratic National Committee chairman, first maintaining that Howard Dean "ought to be kicked out of America" and "tried for treason." He then asserted that Dean, "the head of the Democrats," is "the enemy."

Liberals "want every boy to die. They're bloodthirsty animals. Howard Dean is a vile human being," Muller continued. As one last affront, he noted that "every time you report another dead body in Iraq, they [liberals] go, 'Hoo hoo, it's perfect.'" He then made a show of losing control — as if liberals enjoying the deaths of his country's soldiers was upsetting his reticent sensibilities.

Keep in mind that Muller's entire rant stemmed from Dean's Dec. 5 comment that "the idea that we are going to win this war is an idea that unfortunately is just plain wrong." Muller has taken Dean's serious reservations about our prospects in Iraq and somehow deduced that Dean is a "treasonous," "bloodthirsty" "animal" who cheers every time U.S. soldiers are killed.

While it's understandable to give an exceptionally partisan pundit the chance to express his opinions to the world, one must bear in mind that the nominally nonpartisan hosts of "Fox and Friends" unashamedly concurred with Muller, ejaculating

"Absolutely!" and "Yeah!" throughout his diatribe.

Imprudent punditry may amount to innocent and lowbrow infotainment on the surface, but accusing the leaders of one of our nation's political parties of reveling in loss of life is, to put it diplomatically, slanderous.

Fox News anchor John Gibson has no qualms making similarly outrageous claims.



ROBERT ROSAMILIO/NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

FOX morning show hosts (from left to right) Steve Doocy, E.D. Hill and Brian Kilmeade start the day with "Fox and Friends."

On Jan. 29, 2004, he contended that the BBC has "a frothing-at-the-mouth anti-Americanism that was obsessive, irrational and dishonest." To make his case, he cited that typing the phrase "BBC anti-American" into the Google search engine resulted in 47,200 hits. To anyone who knows how the search engine works, this evidence seems silly; typing in any two words will likely return millions of hits. Considering that "The Big Story with John Gibson" is the sixth-highest rated show among the cable news channels, it appears that his viewers did not make this connection.

Gibson has also maintained that presidential adviser Karl Rove deserves a medal for revealing Valerie Plame as a covert CIA operative — even if he has not been truthful about his role — because Plame's husband opposed the war. His reasoning? Plame was influencing public policy from behind the scenes by suggesting that her husband go to Niger to investigate allegations about uranium sales. For Gibson,

Joe Wilson was a terrible choice because he was a peaceful diplomat. In a particularly unconvincing bit of rhetoric, the anchor asked, "You wouldn't send a peacenik to see if we should go to war, if we need to go to war, now would you?"

First of all, the supposition that a hawkish non-diplomat could better scrutinize the Niger situation than Wilson is absurd. Militaristic sentiment does not correlate with exceptional investigative talents, and diplomatic experience could help Wilson

maneuver through bureaucratic red tape. Moreover, the argument that Rove should be rewarded for blowing the cover of a CIA operative and trying to cover it up afterwards is unapologetically senseless.

The masquerading of despicably irrational opinions as respectably rational facts has become commonplace at Fox News Channel.

Unfortunately, the Federal Communication Commission cannot legally regulate cable networks. The tide of slander will persist without a public rejection of outrageous punditry.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DISNEY/WALDEN

(Left) The Pevensie children survey their new surroundings they discovered in the back of a wardrobe. (Right) The messianic leader, Aslan, gives some gentle words of wisdom to one of the children. "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" is an adaptation of the much-heralded children's classic by C.S. Lewis.

"The Chronicles of Narnia," from page to screen

By KEVIN DUGAN
ARTS & SOCIETY EDITOR

Rating:
4 out of 7 Dugans

You weren't the only person that, as a child, checked the back of his or her closets for hidden worlds. Entire generations became enamored with the prospect of uncovering a private universe of magic, mythical creatures and talking beavers. These dreamers are finally getting to see the works

of C.S. Lewis on the movie screen, with the adaptation of "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe."

"The Chronicles of Narnia" have long been hailed as some of the greatest works of children's literature ever written. The extraordinary tales are an easy read for young booklovers, and now provide for perfect adaptations for a company like Disney to produce.

The beginning chronicle of Narnia follows the lives of four young British children in the midst

of World War II finding shelter in a large country manor. It does not take long for the youngest (and only cute one of the four) to stumble upon the mystical realm of Narnia in the back of a wardrobe, bringing her and her siblings into the middle of a war. Soon they discover that they have been expected as fulfillment of a prophecy to save the land from the evil White Witch. Siding with the oppressed creatures of Narnia, the children struggle to save the world from impending doom, under the

leadership of the messianic lion, Aslan.

Liam Neeson provides the voice for Aslan -- an excellent choice on Disney's part, as Neeson has both a wise and gentle voice, both traits necessary for a lion meant to represent Christ. And just in case C.S. Lewis was at all coy or subtle about the religious undertones of his book, the film squashed any doubt with its portrayal of Aslan. It was not a complete overkill of the theme though, as it still blended with the rest of the film.

Compared to the recent "Lord of the Rings" films, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" offers a much warmer and brighter world, with less gore. While there is a war raging in Narnia, the battles do not include any blood and are not nearly as intense as those seen in Tolkien's Middle Earth. There are still stunning visuals throughout the film, but nothing that brings you to the edge of your seat.

Even though "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" has no **continued on page 17**

Jackson stunningly recreates "King Kong"

By KEVIN TULISZEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Tool's Rating:
9 out of 10

In 1933, RKO released the original "King Kong," which made a record-breaking \$90,000 in its opening weekend thanks to its revolutionary use of stop-motion animation. Over the years, it has been hailed as one of the best American films of all time. Thankfully, Peter Jackson's latest remake of the classic does well to recreate the spectacle that thrilled audiences in the 30s, updating Kong's image and crafting an adventure that is without a doubt one of the holiday's greatest times at the movies.

In a New York City gripped by the Great Depression, wholesome vaudevillian showgirl Ann Darrow (Naomi Watts) gets booted to the streets when her theater is forced to shut down. Crossing paths with slippery film director Carl Denham (Jack Black), she is cast into the role of the heroine in Denham's latest movie. Teaming up with Denham's screenwriter Jack Driscoll (Adrien Brody) and a ragtag film crew, the gang shoves off to the uncharted Skull Island, where they discover a prehistoric land untouched by civilization.

Fresh off his "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, Jackson resumes his role as special effects wizard: all of the creatures inhabiting Skull Island are amazingly rendered, hearkening back to the accomplishments of the original



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Naomi Watts takes a ride in the hands of the King himself in Peter Jackson's new adaptation of the American film classic "King Kong." Watts stars as former vaudevillian Ann Darrow.

"Jurassic Park," only much, much bigger. Andy Serkis (who also provided the action for Gollum in "The Lord of the Rings") is the human basis for Kong's movements, impressively putting all that knowledge he gained studying the habits of gorillas in Africa to good use. Add some amazing animation to Serkis' model, and you have what could be the most realistic-looking computer-generated beast ever created. As for the setting, the New York that Jackson presents at the beginning and end of the film is lively and cartoonish, and fits well overall into a movie about a giant ape.

The action, while a bit slow in coming, doesn't quit when it gets started. After about 45 minutes of

exposition in the city and on the boat to Skull Island, the film suddenly turns into something much grimmer. One of the mates on the ship reads "Heart of Darkness" during the journey, and from the looks of the dense jungles and savage villages on the island, that seems to be exactly where they are going.

From the moment Kong bounds out of the jungle to kidnap the helpless Ann to the climactic scene on the top of the Empire State building, the film hardly stops to catch its breath -- and when it finds time to pause for a touching moment between Ann and the ape, bullets from a swooping biplane or a tyrannosaurus attack smash the tranquility. Death and destruction follow Kong everywhere, and the

good part about it is that it doesn't get old.

Watts and company play their roles with an enthusiasm that walks the fine line between emotional and melodramatic -- sometimes it befittingly resembles typical 30s cinema, sometimes it's a little too much. Kong himself is characterized by his charming humanity, but there are moments when his "love affair" with Watts seems more real than the scripted romance between her and Brody. The ape is actually the most interesting character in the movie, both literally and figuratively overshadowing the others (he laughs, cries and gets really, really mad) and the whole time you can see the soft spot he has for Ann in his CGI face. It's all a tad overdone,

but for the most part it works quite well.

The script calls for the characters mostly running and screaming, so don't expect Brody to add to his Oscar collection after this one. Watts, however, consistently sparkles when the movie lets her have a line here and there. Jack Black doesn't surprise anyone with the same wise-guy act he's always had, but manages to turn it down when things need to get serious. But it all rolls together around Kong, and at many points the adventures he goes through is so exhilarating that it makes you forget that no one has uttered a line in the past 20 minutes.

The action scenes come one after another after another, and nothing in the story is lost in the process -- in fact, the action is the story. What Jackson does (with lots of help from his SFX department) is constantly top himself with each spectacular action scene while still keeping the emotional point in sight, so that by the end you're practically in love with Kong and Ann.

Clocking in at 188 minutes, it's Jackson's fourth movie in a row that has run past three hours, but every minute after the first 45 is worth watching (not that the first 45 aren't worth watching, in fact it's quite the opposite; it's just that time seems to pass more quickly when there's a giant ape smashing things). This is the blockbuster of the holiday season, a nice follow-up to "The Lord of the Rings" and a worthy adaptation of the original.

The Greyhound's

Best Room on Campus Contest

Newman E701

By Vittoria DiProspero
STAFF WRITER

When walking into a college apartment one's expectations can't be too high. Maybe a tiny living room complete with ragged couch and a battered TV. But there's one room on campus that completely blows that idea away. Newman East 701 has an impressive list of unique technological features that distinguish it from most college residences.

The main attraction in 701 is the enormous projection screen that far surpasses the usual 20-inch TV.

The projector is placed at one end of the living room and displays an eight by 11 foot projection onto the opposite wall that creates a movie theatre setting.

And, of course, the boys of 701 -- Cory Coffman, Jordan and Ryan Rabidou, Brendan Doherty and Dave Moore -- know that any real

cinema aficionado can't have a movie theatre without surround sound and stadium seating.

To create the perfect effect, they placed speakers on either side of their stadium seating, which accommodates about 20 people. As if that's not enough, they also have an extra bed in the room if you feel that you might want to doze off during the boring scenes.

However, in order to truly produce the movie theatre experience, one needs the current movies. They also have some secret connections, allowing them to download new releases such as "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" as well as "Wedding Crashers" to watch at home.

But when movie time is over and the boys want to party, the room offers a surprising amount of versatility. The stadium seating can be disassembled to line the walls while the projector gets



TERRY FOY/GREYHOUND

The main attraction of Newman East 701 is the projection screen that provides movie theatre quality pictures. Stadium seating and surround sound are the only appropriate way to complete the atmosphere.

hooked to a computer and is piped through the surround sound system. Meanwhile the Windows Media Player is used to project ambience onto the wall, allowing

the boys to transform their room into a whole new set-up: the dance party. And every dance party needs a DJ, so they also house turntables that enhance the

experience. Whether you want to relax in front of a massive TV or dance your face off, 701 is the ideal place for either traditional college past-time.

Newman W905

By Nick Brown
OPINIONS EDITOR

This is the place to be if you're looking to have a good time, tiki style. The boys of Newman West 905 have taken advantage of their huge...living rooms, by placing a tiki bar in the middle of their apartment and therefore their social lives. Every aspect of the set-up, from the imaginative posters of hot women and Hawaii on the walls to the fake fire to help set the mood, this room never

ceases to amaze and entertain its visitors.

What the men of 905 have done most women can't even pull off: to successfully fill the space in their apartment. Let's call a spade a spade -- Loyola apartments are generic. While they may look different, the walls are all a bland off-white, and the wall-to-wall "carpeting" is the same color campus-wide: puke-brown, to hide stains. The furniture is uniform, too, and, as anyone would agree, lacks sufficient padding for falling

asleep after a long, hard night of studying. Bottom line, making these apartments "homey," that is, differentiating yours from all the others, is not an easy task.

For Newman West 905, it's a cinch. The windows are lined with perpetual Christmas lights, and the carpets are covered by cool-looking rugs.

But undoubtedly, the main attraction is the tiki bar. The only thing they haven't got is a bartender.

Anyone looking for a job?



KRISTEN CESIRO/GREYHOUND

(above) The residents of Newman West 905 use everything from posters of hula dancers to fake fire to help set the mood.



(right) The tiki bar of Newman West 905 in all of its splendor.

The Greyhound's

Best Room on Campus Contest



TERRY FOY/GREYHOUND

(left) The boys in Bellarmine 302 not only enjoy a large television, but supplement it with surround sound and quality lighting.

(below) There is never a tough time looking for something to do in the room, whether they choose to shoot pool, play air hockey or just admire their posters.



Gardens B 302

By **Cara Weigand**
STAFF WRITER

Jamaal Jones, Dan Verderosa, Richard Koletar, Paul Kremer, Irakli Nijaradze and Ryan Hall have pooled all of their resources to transform their home, Bellarmine Hall room 302, into a pub and sports bar themed haven.

When you first walk in the door and down the hallway and notice the Coors light flag trim, it is obvious that this is home to six college students. Walk a little further down

the hall and you are in the living room. Complete with three mini fridges, two televisions (right next to each other), two microwaves, a pool table, air hockey table and surround sound, this living room packs in all the necessities of a college lifestyle. Other than the living room, a back room is home to their putting green.

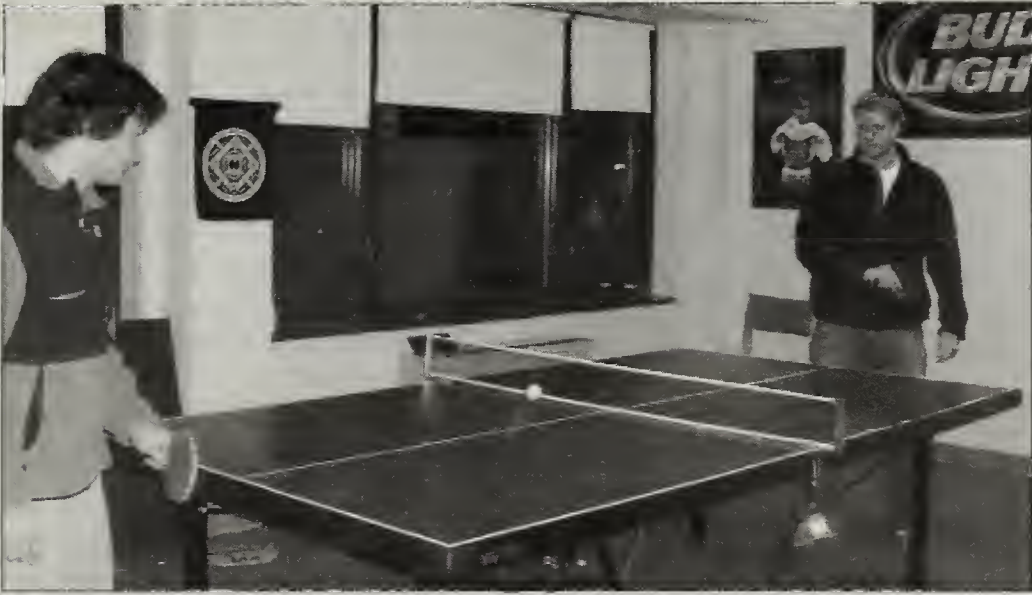
Their room is deemed the ultimate hang out room over their friends' room across the hall. "Let's face it we have a bigger T.V.," explained Hall. But the guys of B302 have

to give the girls credit for being the source and cause of all cleanliness, and the ladies gladly take the credit.

Favorite things about their room include the pool table and the "Man Wall." The wall is a display of those who, as the guys say, are quite simply "the Man" in their field, and includes Arnold Schwarzenegger, Frank Sinatra and Hugh Hefner, among others. Another room favorite is the surround sound. "The surround sound is cool

because we have mahogany holders for the speakers," commented Koletar. With a great name and height that causes him to have to duck under door ways, the roommates all agree on one thing, roommate and former Loyola basketball player Irakli Nijaradze is another one of the best things in their room.

So whether you're into the sports or bar scene, or you want to discuss the true men of the world during a casual game of pool, Bellarmine Hall Room 302 is the place to be.



KRISTEN CESIRO/GREYHOUND

(top left) The cherry of Newman West 201 is the full-size ping-pong table found in the far corner of the room. (bottom left) The boys of the room also have an impressive entertainment center, equipped with a flat-screen television.

Newman W201

By **Terry Foy**
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Upon entering the cavernous lodge of Newman West 201, one gets the sense that, with its winding hallways and secret nooks, the dorm room might be considered the best at Loyola without the amenities supplied by Dylan O'Shea, Mike O'Keefe, Ian Todd, Jimmy O'Laughlin, Patrick Daly and Jason Smith. But with the personal touches this group of sophomores has supplied, such potential has been exceeded.

The room features a foyer, which is decorated with a spattering of random posters, license plates and other paraphernalia. As the entry way spills into a ranging common room, the eye is directed to the full-size ping-pong table in the far corner. The kitchen, which proudly displays empty weight-lifting supplement containers, is directly ahead and the bedrooms surround the core.

One bedroom features a suspended hammock that is anchored to the wall and an impressive entertainment center, complete with massive speaker towers and a flat-screen television. The nearby bed is covered by a leopard-print comforter, and a hidden study room houses two computers around a corner.

Another bedroom is home to a red leather couch as well as another impressive television center. Additionally, 201 West has an auxiliary room that is too small to be a bedroom, and thus features the second hammock and a futon for guests.

What separates this room from others, however, is the excessive amount of pictures, posters, and other intriguing articles that are haphazardly hung around the room. Whether it be a "Go Zags" banner, a framed photograph of James Joyce, or an autographed (does it matter whether it's real or forged?) Britney Spears T-shirt, 201 seems to have it all.



(right) Resident Ian Todd decides to take a midday nap in the hammock suspended in front of the entertainment center.

THE BEST ALBUMS OF 2005

BY TOM KORP
MUSIC CRITIC
CHRIS DILLON
MUSIC CRITIC

Bright Eyes

I'm Wide Awake It's Morning

CD — Bright Eyes' *I'm Wide Awake It's Morning* cannot be ignored as one of the top albums of the year. Conor Oberst finally realizes his potential, leaving *Wide Awake* replete with complex arrangements, a uniquely wavering voice and brilliantly poetic lyrics. He actually manages to give some weight to claims that he's the next Dylan. *Wide Awake* finds Oberst at a transition, a Nebraskan country boy with an overwhelming amount of hype enters the big city -- depression, loneliness and drugs ensue -- the result is an emotionally tumultuous ride of anti-war-infused lyrics and hopelessly romantic ballads, a tinge of folk and country and a whole lot of unforgettable music.

TK — To be honest, I'm not a fan of the young Oberst. I find old Bright Eyes too much like Cursive, new too much like Bob Dylan and Postal Service. Still, the rearrangement of "Ode to Joy" (that is, "Road to Joy") has redeemed Conor in my eyes, however slightly.

Bloc Party

Silent Alarm

CD — I don't know if I've heard anything quite like Bloc Party's debut *Silent Alarm*. Originally hyped as another neo-wave dance rock outfit, Bloc Party ended up captivating the attention of critics who have since been attempting to describe, compare and quantify them with little success. Bloc Party go back and forth between a fast-paced energy with catchy chorus lines and a slower, enigmatic sound that truly grabs you. The combination of melodious guitar hooks layered over more ethereal guitar work with a complex drum beat and Kele Okereke's soaring vocals make Bloc Party one of the best new artists of the year.

TK — The "iconoclastic" arrogance of Kele Okereke & co. is astounding -- who refuses to name their musical predecessors as inspiration? Bollocks, says I. Regardless, the hype surrounding Bloc Party is mostly deserved. While their songwriting and musicianship are undeniable, they haven't exactly reinvented the wheel.

The Decemberists

Picaresque

TK — Loquacious and high-brow to be sure, the Decemberists' third full-length, *Picaresque* is a musical tour-de-force of non-traditional instrumentation and parody-infused songwriting. Colin Meloy & co. craft songs more akin to theatrical drama than lyric poetry, with subject matter ranging from the Cold War spy intrigue of "The Bagman's Gambit" to the riveting retribution of "The Mariner's

Revenge" and the political diatribe of "Sixteen Military Wives." Shifting between upbeat pop and mellow, folksy ballads -- "The Sporting Life" on one end, "The Engine Driver" on the other -- *Picaresque* encompasses a wide range of styles while remaining a marvelously seamless experience. In a word: fantastic.

CD — There's a mysterious world that the Decemberists have in their heads, filled with baronesses and barrow boys, leaving images of an epic tale of a 19th century seafaring village. With each album, the world becomes more vivid, and on *Picaresque* they succeed in most fully realizing that world to date. It's not only their best effort yet, but belongs on this list.

The White Stripes

Get Behind Me Satan

CD — On *Get Behind Me Satan*, the White Stripes deny that they've passed their peak with *Elephant* and put together a more eclectic group of songs than ever before. *Satan* is Jack White flexing his musical muscle, adding marimba and piano to the list of instruments he's mastered. Lyrically, the album is more direct than ever before, and finds the Stripes straying from their usual topics of childhood innocence and the simplicity of yesteryear. Still, they haven't departed entirely from their sound, throwing in a few

memories and spine-tingling hard-rock breakdown of "Song About Old Roller Coaster." *Terrorhawk* will move your mind and body -- no questions asked, no prisoners taken.

CD — If you're a fan of hardcore music but are growing increasingly embarrassed by the fact that the themes rarely stray from finding, having or losing lust, then you should give *Terrorhawk* a listen. Though immature in places, Bear vs. Shark favor more complex arrangements and guitar layering over the format of using worn-out pop hooks.

Clap Your Hands Say Yeah

ST

TK — Clap Your Hands Say Yeah's debut full-length is, without a doubt, the abso-frickin-lute

intricately executed, containing strings, horns, flutes, woodwinds, drums, banjo, guitars, piano... you get the idea... on almost every track (most played by Sufjan himself). The songs vary, some sounding like marching band anthems, others haunting folk rock tales. All are unmistakably part of a monumental undertaking.

TK — Yes -- oh sweet God, yes. Sufjan proves himself beyond a shadow of a doubt with *Illinoise*... the man could most likely write a song about his own bowel movements that would make a deaf man weep for joy. Dulcet tones, sonorous vocals, glorious arrangements: Sufjan is my musical Jesus.

The Most Serene Republic

Underwater Cinematographer

TK — I actually encountered this Canadian band by a rather fortuitous accident, as they opened for fellow Canuck rockers Metric earlier this fall. A marvelous sextet of melody-driven pop-rockers with a penchant for dense instrumentals and crafty choral arrangements, the Most Serene Republic has fashioned a chamber-pop jewel with their debut release, *Underwater Cinematographer*. Flowing, swelling, contradicting and complimenting, there's never a dull moment as Adrian Jewett's alto vocals float airily above interweaving back-ups, layered guitars, brassy percussion and delightful keys. Listen to "Where Cedar Nouns and Adverbs Walk" and just try to resist the sing-along chorus. It can't be done.

CD — Lately Canada has been sending over a hefty amount of pop/rock indie bands to seduce American college audiences. This year alone Metric, Stars, Broken Social Scene and New Pornographers all had strong releases, but TMSR's release stands out as being the most fully achieved, insightful and consistent.

Sigur Rós

Takk...

CD — *Takk...* (Icelandic for: "Thanks") the fourth full-length from Sigur Rós has them topping themselves, yet again, with a splendidly beautiful creation of ambient soundscapes and airy vocals.

On *Takk...* they use their drums, bass, guitar (played with an e-bow) and keyboards, backed by their fellow compatriots string quartet, Amina and venture away from melancholy to put together a more optimistic and upbeat set. Sigur Rós have composed the emotions of happiness and beauty in perfect detail. Lyrical translation is not necessary, or even preferred; the music speaks in a universal language of intense emotion and leaves one deeply moved.

TK — The sheer beauty of "Sæglópur" has brought me to the verge of tears on more than one occasion. My hat is off to you, Jón Þór Birgisson, Kjartan Sveinsson, Orri Páll Dýrason, and Georg Holm -- *takk*, and keep up the good work.

The Hold Steady

Separation Sunday

TK — Barroom rock at its finest: Minneapolis (by way of Brooklyn) all-stars the Hold Steady fuse gritty rock riffs, brassy percussion, synth melodies and sung-spoken vox with a heavy dose of reverb to create a visceral, life-altering rock-n-roll experience. Like Bruce Springsteen as a born-again blowhead, Craig Finn waxes poetic over the life of Hallelujah "Holly," a hood-rat whose life of druggy religion and transcendent addiction demonstrates how a resurrection really feels. Key tracks "Stevie Nix" and "Multitude of Casualties" turn it up to 11, providing a steady rush of pure rock goodness that's sure to leave you wanting more.

CD — I have a lot of difficulty digesting Finn's no-sing approach to singing, however the music going on behind his rants is the best damn bar band ever. Endless hard rock riffs and energetic beats leave *Separation Sunday* a serious toe-tapper. Give it a try and I'll keep trying to figure out what Finn is attempting to accomplish.

dirty blues tracks for good measure.

TK — Weird as it sounds (or, maybe not) I hear elements of Prince and Beck at work in *Satan*. Gritty, minimalist blues-rock with the occasional segue into extra-instrumental complexity (marimba!), this is yet another tight number from everyone's favorite "brother-sister" duo. Not grand by any means, but altogether fun.

Bear vs. Shark

Terrorhawk

TK — To be honest, I was surprised by the staying power of *Terrorhawk* -- I grabbed it over the summer and rocked the "eff" out to Bear vs. Shark's vicious yells, casual croons, weighty power-chords and driving rhythms. Six months later and I'm still loving the BvS and their avant-garde approach to post-hardcore ruckus-rock and surprisingly thought-provoking lyrics. Consider "Baraga Embarkment" and its consideration of unplanned pregnancy, the riveting bass-lines and politics of "Entrance of the Elected" or the poeticized

best pop album of the year. Clever lyrics about life and love melt into jangly guitars, booty-shaking rhythms, tight percussion, and slick keyboard accents. Lo-fi production values give CYHSY an old-school feel that is free from artifice and simply overflowing with personality. Alec Ounsworth's high-range tremble cuts to the quick in songs like "Let the Cool Goddess Rust Away" and "Details of the War," holding your attention from start to finish and leaving you that much better for the experience. Get it. Love it. Dance to it.

CD — New York's answer to the chaotic dance-along of Arcade Fire, CYHSY is a pop masterpiece. Their energy and enthusiasm mixed with just enough artistic credibility leave this as the indie find of the year.

Sufjan Stevens

Come on Feel the Illinoise!

CD — *Come on Feel the Illinoise!* is the best album of the year. *Illinoise* is the second state in Sufjan Stevens' 50 states project, where he uses memorable events and people from Illinois as the inspiration for the entire album. The songs on this album are massively conceived and



New "Prince of Persia" holds up to originals



PHOTO COURTESY OF UBISOFT

The prince of Persia returns home to Babylon to find it in flames. He must battle his dark side to achieve victory.

By CHRIS STROTT
VIDEOGAME CRITIC

Rating:
8.5 out of 10

"The Prince of Persia: The Two Thrones" is the final in the so called "Sands Trilogy." The first game, "Sands of Time," was met with a lot of praise and was incredibly fun. The sequel, "Warrior Within," fell way short of the first since it thought the idea of mixing heavy metal and Arabian knights was a good idea. Luckily for fans of the series the third game goes back to its roots, with high flying acrobatic action.

After returning home from his journey to the Isle of Time, the Prince finds Babylon in flames. The sands of time have been released once again, and once again the Prince must save the world. This time, however, the sands create a rift in the Prince's mind, making way for the Dark Prince. The Dark Prince has a God of War-esque long bladed chain attached to his arm. Whipping this chain around to destroy enemies is fun at first, but quickly gets old. Fighting as the regular Prince is never really enjoyable.

The combat is the one drawback in the game, reminding me of the first Prince game: clunky and awkward. I found myself dying because once a combo is started, it must be finished. This gave the surrounding enemies a perfect chance to rip me a new one, so to speak.

There is also a new speed kill system to add some stealth play to the game. When behind or above an enemy, the screen will distort, prompting you to start the speed kill. Players have to time strikes as their dagger flashes on screen. Speed kills are far from a given, however, as the timing can be tricky. Soon enough, the "Sands of Time" rewind ability will be used to retry a failed assassination, since a botched job often results in a load of extra enemies.

What I like about speed kills is the way they bring the focus back to exploration and acrobatics. The system integrates easily into the game's adventuring. It's pretty cool to be wedged into a narrow gap between walls and then to drop on a pair of unsuspecting enemies, leaping back and forth between them with a flashing dagger. And while it's frustrating to use your sand reserves to

rewind a missed kill, taking down an enemy quickly refills the tank, easing the pain.

The acrobatics have evolved as well. The primary addition is the ability to plant a knife in plates embedded in many walls, from which the prince can hang or pause in the middle of a wall run. These add extra challenges to the acrobatics, as the timing of each knife plant is crucial. The Dark Prince can also use his chain to extend wall runs by wrapping it around light fixtures.

In every case, the acrobatics on hand are more fluid than ever. That alone makes "The Two Thrones" a contender for best Prince title. Whether leaping while perched atop a thin pole, or performing a diagonal jump off a switch protruding from a wall, the moves are seamless and incredibly responsive. The puzzles this time around seem easier. This is probably because there are only so many things Ubisoft can throw at us before we've seen it all.

Visually the game is stunning. The environments are incredibly detailed, as are

the enemies and the Prince himself. The enemies have a new, darker look, and are unbelievable. The level of detail in each room is incredible, with billowing curtains and intricate lattice designs. Looking out from a balcony over the city of Babylon takes your breath away. The sound is also great in the game. The music goes back to its roots, adding to the Arabian knights feel. The voice acting is pretty good, and didn't distract from the story. The normal grunts and clangs of combat are there, and are what you would expect. The story however, is not a Pulitzer Prize winner. It quickly becomes boring, but the high flying acrobatics make you keep going.

Overall, "Prince of Persia: The Two Thrones" is an incredible game. The lackluster story and average combat can't draw the fun out of running and jumping from wall to wall. Any fans of the first Prince game should pick this one up, as should anyone who just wants a free flying good time.

Enter the world of Narnia

continued from page 13

exceedingly thrilling moments -- by staying away from a huge back story and world history of Narnia, which were big focuses for "The Lord of the Rings" films, the film never has moments of complete boredom either. With the lack of mundane details, the film is better geared towards children, but it also helps keep the attention of the adults too.

The movie turned out to be a great representation of the book, making it a fun experience for children and adults alike. The

highlights of the book are all presented well in the film, meeting all expectations of avid fans of C.S. Lewis, while at the same time providing some of the best animated visuals ever seen in film.

While "The Chronicles of Narnia" may not end up as one of the most legendary film sagas, Disney has done a good job so far of meeting expectations. I am sure they will continue the saga with additional entertaining movies that are worth seeing down the line, so make sure to get in on the ground floor with this first of many films.

STRONG
LC
Truths

7 out of 10
LC sophomores
pray or meditate.

2005 Your First College Year Survey
Questions? Contact Cindy Parcover at cparcover@loyola.edu

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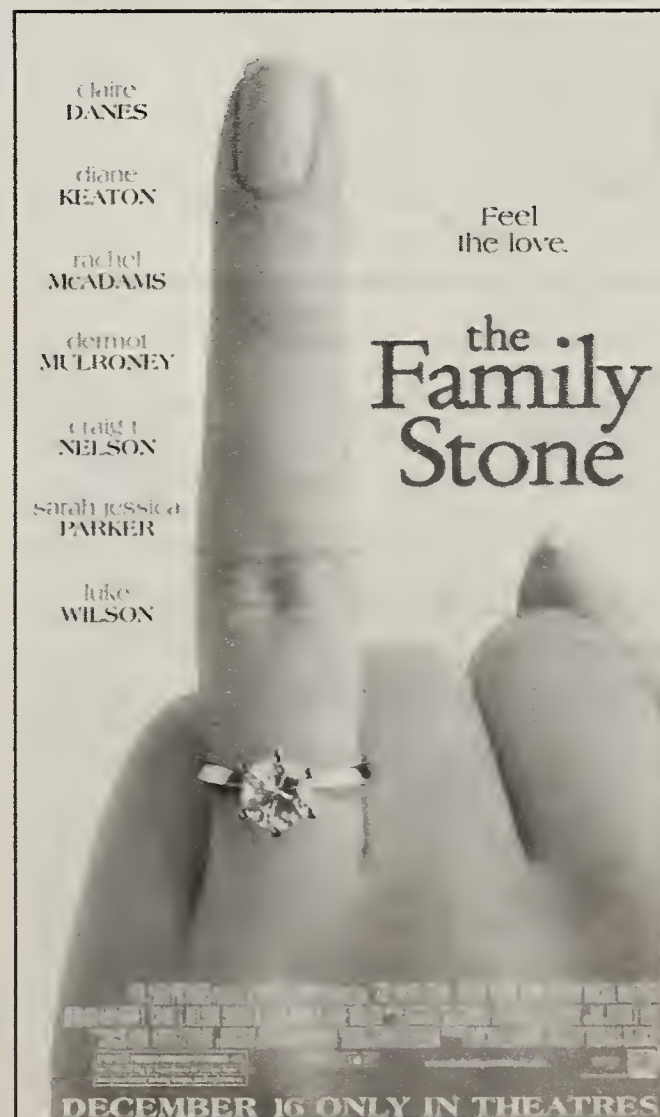


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Rated PG-13 for some sexual content including dialogue, and drug references

*** MOVIE PASSES! ***

THE QUIGMANS



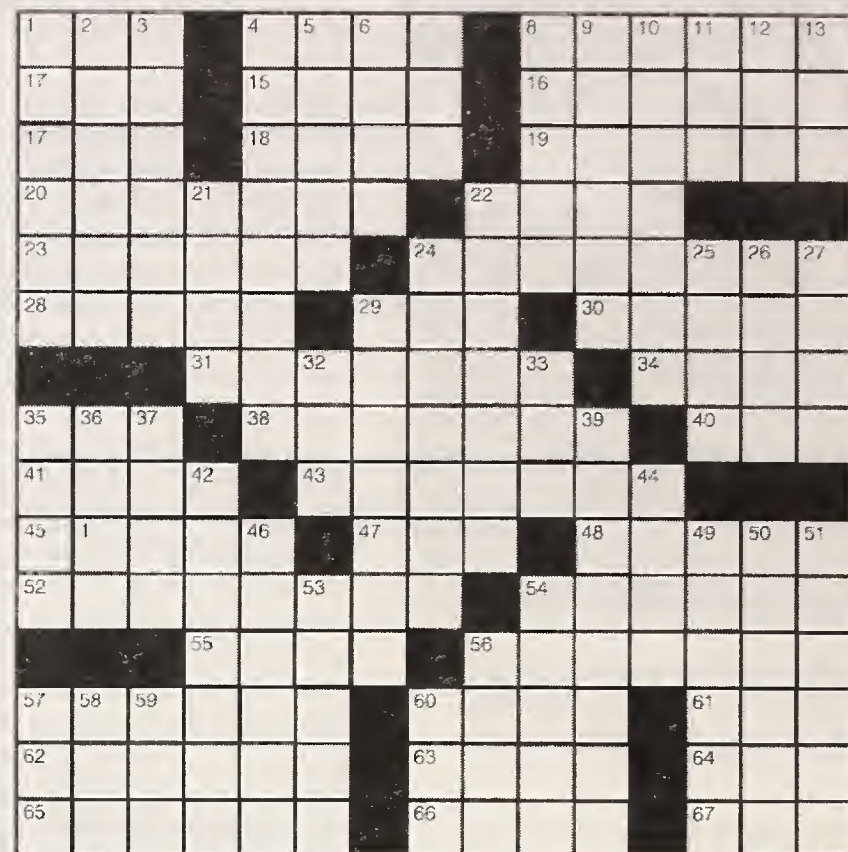
"Hello. FBI. We've been tapping your phone, and we're DYING to check out a photo of that girl you've been talking to. She sounds totally hot."



Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tavern
 - 4 Festive event
 - 8 Wide shots
 - 14 Lyric poem
 - 15 Vivacity
 - 16 Type of tax
 - 17 Appendage
 - 18 Light gas
 - 19 Sentence part
 - 20 Fans
 - 22 Persian Gulf nation
 - 23 Turn aside
 - 24 Spring bloom
 - 28 Office worker, briefly
 - 29 Escalates
 - 30 Finnish bath
 - 31 Number that showed up
 - 34 Permits to
 - 35 Genetic letters
 - 38 Makes safe
 - 40 Period
 - 41 Divisions of geological time
 - 43 Inventor's grants
 - 45 African language group
 - 47 Rorem or Beatty
 - 48 Chicago hub
 - 52 Grand
 - 54 Rouse from sleep
 - 55 Refuse to acknowledge
 - 56 Calibration
 - 57 Grief-stricken
 - 60 Killed violently
 - 61 Me in Marseilles
 - 62 Seventh planet
 - 63 Hebrides isle
 - 64 Large storage container
 - 65 In a mild manner
 - 66 Swing to and fro
 - 67 Mine's yield

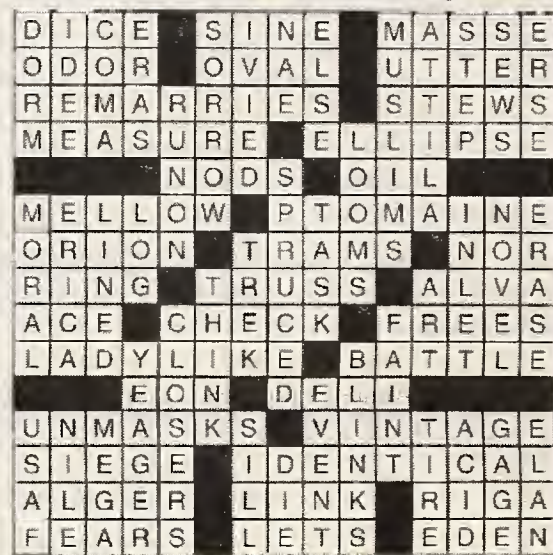
- DOWN**
- 1 Enplanes
 - 2 Sure-handed
 - 3 Take away
 - 4 Unselfish
 - 5 Warn
 - 6 Thailand's neighbor



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12/13/05

Solutions to last week's puzzle



- 46 Beneficial
- 49 With hands on hips
- 50 Impressionist painter
- 51 Locomotive
- 53 Fidgety
- 54 Field of endeavor
- 56 Look of love
- 57 Annoy
- 58 Afore
- 59 Operated
- 60 Bro's sibling

Aries (March 21-April 20) Early Tuesday, a close friend may express a strong need for privacy or social isolation. Ironically, quiet reflections will greatly improve

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Romance and long-term friendships may this week offer unique moments of intimacy. A recent phase of mistrust or lagging

self-esteem will no longer restrict key relationships. After Thursday, ask gently probing questions and expect genuine answers.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Job satisfaction is now on the rise: over the next 12 days, many Cancerians will expand their abilities to accept or complete new assignments. After Saturday, a close friendship may be briefly tested. Private versus public information is accented: remain cautious.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Group invitations may soon trigger rare discussions between loved ones. After Tuesday, planned events, sentimental reunions or controversial family gatherings may create a powerful need for acceptance and forgiveness. Find

positive ways to end unproductive disputes: your social attitude will be quickly adopted.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) New job options or rekindled business partnerships demand serious consideration: expect friends or relatives to actively explore all proposals. Late Friday, a new friend or colleague may reveal complex romantic feelings. Refuse to be derailed: an honest reaction will prove successful.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) After Tuesday, a stalled friendship moves forward: expect valid progress concerning rare ethical triangles or lingering social doubts. Some Librans, especially those born after 1967, will also inspire renewed confidence between despondent friends, loved ones and romantic partners. Don't hesitate to act as mediator: your observations are meaningful.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Diplomacy between colleagues is essential for team success. Over

the next seven days, co-workers and managers may rely heavily on your ability to resolve silent disputes. Use humor, unique invitations or special compliments to address outstanding tensions: your empathy and attention to detail won't be forgotten.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Private discussions between family members or friends will this week build lasting trust. In the coming weeks, key relationships may evolve to new levels of acceptance and intimacy. Express complex ideas and watch for steady progress: social support, compassion or a renewed faith in shared goals will provide rare opportunities.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) Social triangles and competing workplace loyalties are now unavoidable. Over the next six days, older colleagues may ask for special permissions, improved schedules or new assignments. Late Saturday, a sudden romantic invitation may strain family relationships.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) Before mid-week, a recent phase of isolation or miscommunications in the home will end. Close relatives expect an honest emotional response: openly discuss all daily expectations and private obligations. Loved ones may be particularly sensitive to issues of financial duty, traditional roles or family loyalty.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20) Financial negotiations will now work to your advantage: over the next 12 days, expect roommates, long-term friends or family members to respond positively to new home suggestions and practical instructions. Friday through Sunday, a close friend may ask for added patience.

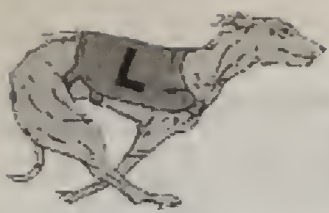
If your birthday is this week: Friends and lovers may be reluctant to make meaningful choices over the next six weeks. At present, private social fears or hidden family disputes may be a top priority. Much of 2006 will bring steady increases in business resources and financial security.

HOROSCOPES

By Lasha Seniuk/KRT

communications: encourage thoughtfulness and wait for reliable social invitations. Later this week, long-term friends or potential lovers will reveal their deepest fears.

Taurus (April 21-May 20) Loved ones may this week propose unexpected career changes. At present, business excitement and job speculation will inspire passionate debate, dramatic suggestions and unrealistic plans. Renewed ambition may prove more important than restructured goals. Friday through Sunday, romantic overtures are warmly inviting: take time to explore newfound attractions.



CASSIE ROBINSON/ GREYHOUND

Junior Shane James controls the top of the key versus Manhattan on Sunday. James shot 50 percent from the field and controlled the ball against the Jaspers' top defender.

Collins hot over weekend, LC 1-1

Collins drops 39 in first loss and buzzer-beater to finish FU

By MIKE TIRONE
SPORTS EDITOR

Loyola's men's basketball team's five game winning streak was snapped at the hands of Manhattan College last Sunday as the Jaspers pulled away to an 85-73 win. Two days earlier the Greyhounds extended their season-opening streak with an overtime victory at Fairfield, 90-85. Senior guard Andre Collins led the Hounds as he netted a career-high 39 points in the loss, while only one other Hound broke double figures in scoring.

The first half went back and forth with long runs from both teams. The Hounds jumped out early, with Collins scoring six of the team's first 10 to grab a five-point lead. The lead held for several minutes of the first half as sophomore forward Michael Tuck connected with his first five field-goal attempts for 11 first half

points.

Loyola's lead would quickly diminish as the Jaspers pulled out in front in the last few minutes of the first half. However, Collins would go on a tear to close of the period scoring the last eight points for the Greyhounds, cutting the Manhattan lead to 40-37. Jaspers' guard Jason Wingate nailed a three as time expired, however, to steal Loyola's momentum and send Manhattan into the break with a six-point lead.

"The three at the end of the half was big," said Loyola head coach Jimmy Patsos. "It should have been a three point game at the half but we poorly defended the play."

The second half began with more intensity, as the Jaspers jumped out to a lead, only for Collins to cut into it again.

The senior captain sunk a deep three at the top of the key, dribbled by a Jasper defender and then spun by two others to grab the lay

up, and then capped it off with a fade-away jumper in the paint to bring the Greyhounds back within three. Along with his strong creativity with the ball, Collins, who is averaging 24 points a game, tied the school record for most three-point field goals in a game with six.

"We did everything we could to stop him," said Manhattan head coach Bobby Gonzalez. "We tired to double team him and wear him down. We threw the kitchen sink at him. He is one of the best guards that I have ever seen in my seven years at Manhattan."

However, the Greyhound defense found itself unable to stop the Jasper offensive threat, as the three point deficit was the closest Loyola could get. Loyola had several miscues and mental mistakes causing turnovers. The Hounds were unable to get defensive stops as well as baskets

continued on page 21

Stags' Wrice too much for LC, 76-71

By JIM DELANEY
STAFF WRITER

Coming off of a four game winning streak, the Loyola women's basketball team stumbled on Sunday against Fairfield at Retiz Arena. Loyola fell to 4-3 (1-1 in the Metro-Atlantic Athletics Conference) on the season with the loss, a heartbreaking 76-71 defeat to an aggressive Stags team. On Friday, Loyola stunned Iona on the road as the Hounds stormed back for a 65-63 victory. Earlier in the week, Loyola took down Howard and ran away with an 83-65 win.

The first half of the Fairfield contest was a back and forth battle until the Stags capitalized on Loyola's sloppy play and jumped out to a 15-10 lead six minutes into the game. Loyola would come back on the shoulders of junior Brittany Dunn's six consecutive points, to give the Greyhounds the lead at 16-15. That would be the last time until late in the second

half that the Greyhounds would have control.

The latter part of the first half was full of runs as both teams showed signs of taking the momentum. With five minutes left, Fairfield slowly built a 31-20 lead by taking advantage of their second chance opportunities. Fairfield's Stephanie Ryan and Candace Lindsay took over the paint. They limited Loyola to one shot on the offensive end and grabbed numerous second chance points on put-backs drawing the ire of head coach Joe Logan.

"We need to do a better job of boxing out," said Logan. "We did a lot of little things wrong defensively that cost us the game."

Loyola would come back on an 8-0 run riding on the inside play of senior Jackie Valderas who scored six consecutive points to bring the game to 34-32 at the 2:23 mark. Fairfield's point guard, Sabra Wrice, who was a thorn in Loyola's side all day, hit a fadeaway three and

added a breakaway bucket for five consecutive points to make it 39-32. However, the Hounds would not go away as they responded with two buckets before the end of the half to draw the game to 39-36.

With Wrice's 26 point effort coupled with the commanding rebounding by the Stags, it became difficult for Loyola to get back in the game.

"Wrice just played a great game," said Harrington. Lauren Troupe added, "Wrice was in the zone, and we just couldn't stop her."

The second-half started slow for both teams as Fairfield and Loyola turned up the defensive pressure. Loyola attempted to pound the ball inside to Troupe, who scored 16 points on the day and carried the Greyhounds in the second half. With 15 minutes left, Troupe drew Loyola to within a point at 41-40, but once again the Stags responded with their

continued on page 20

Loyola gets a Fighting Irish at forward position

By MIKE TIRONE
SPORTS EDITOR

Adding to the very impressive list of players transferring to play for the Loyola men's basketball team is one who comes from a very prestigious school in the University of Notre Dame. Omari Isreal, 6-foot-9, 235 pound forward transferred from Norte Dame after playing one year and red shirting his freshman after recovering from knee surgery in 2003.

Isreal, who is from Rockville, Maryland, went to Our Lady of Good Counsel and was the first four year starter in school history. Scoring over 1,500 points in his prep school career and he average of 10 rebounds a game.

"I'm really excited to play here at Loyola," said Isreal. "I think with

Now going to be a junior, but with two years of eligibility at Loyola, Isreal will be able to suit up for the Greyhounds at the start of second semester next year. Looking to make an immediate impact for the team, Isreal will add much needed height to the Hounds. Known for his very athletic ability, he will be not only a threat in the paint alongside colleague Hassan Fofana, but will also cause mismatch problems with his ability to shoot from the perimeter.

"I can't wait to play with Hassan," said Isreal. "To have someone real big to throw it down to; I am really excited."

When being recruited out of high school, Isreal was ranked on rivals.com in the top 150 recruits in 2003 and no. 17 ranked small



FRANK FRANKLIN II/ THE WASHINGTON POST

Omari Isreal (right) and Rick Cornett (left) sit on the bench after Norte Dame loses in the Big East Conference Tourney in 2005.

their 'run 'n gun' style of play, they will be able to utilize my athleticism."

While at Notre Dame Isreal red shirted his freshman year, and appeared in 19 games in his first season of action. He averaged 1.4 points and 1.8 rebounds a game, with highlights coming against some of the best programs in the national. The forward played a career-high 18 minutes against Connecticut and grabbed another career-high of six rebounds.

forward in the country.

"I'm disappointed, you never want to lose anybody," said Isreal's former head coach at Notre Dame, Mike Brey. "But college basketball is survival of the fittest. And in fairness to Omari, he wasn't very healthy to compete this fall."

"I know everyone on the team knows what they are doing," said Isreal. "I am just coming in and going to try and fit in with these guys. I will feed off of them."



SPORTS INFORMATION

Sophomore guard Tynisha Davis looks to pass during Loyola's 69-57 victory over St. Francis.

THE GREYHOUND

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

In the Greyhound's thrilling away victory of Fairfield, Andre Collins went 5-15 from outside the arc, tying a school high for most three-point shots made in a game. One of those five threes was a buzzer-beating, game tying heave to send the game into overtime in which he carried his team to a 90-85 victory. Ending the game with the team high 23 points, he also contributed eight points and two steals.

Just two days later, after playing the majority of the extended game at Fairfield, Collins came back to Reitz Arena to score a career-high 39 points in their difficult loss to Manhattan. Every opportunity the Jaspers had, Collins returned with a double. Every run made, the point guard responded with a three-pointer and more. Although suffering their first loss of the season, Loyola College saw how great Collins can truly be with this past Sunday's performance.



Andre Collins
Senior

SPORTS INFORMATION

Hounds look forwards to Tigers

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offensive rebounding to create easy points. Fairfield held a 57-49 lead at the 9:18 mark, but the Hounds went on a 10-0 run that featured six points by Troupe, a bucket by Valderas and a bucket by Dunn. At the 6:10 mark late in the second half, Loyola found themselves leading 61-60 for the first time since early in the game.

"I wanted to score and I wanted to help my teammates score," said Troupe. "I had the determination to win and I got in a zone."

Loyola and Fairfield engaged in an intense but haphazard game down the stretch with Loyola taking a 69-68 lead at the 1:14 mark, as Loyola fell apart, turning the ball over and letting Wrice hit a few big shots late. As time ran out, Fairfield would hang on to win 76-71.

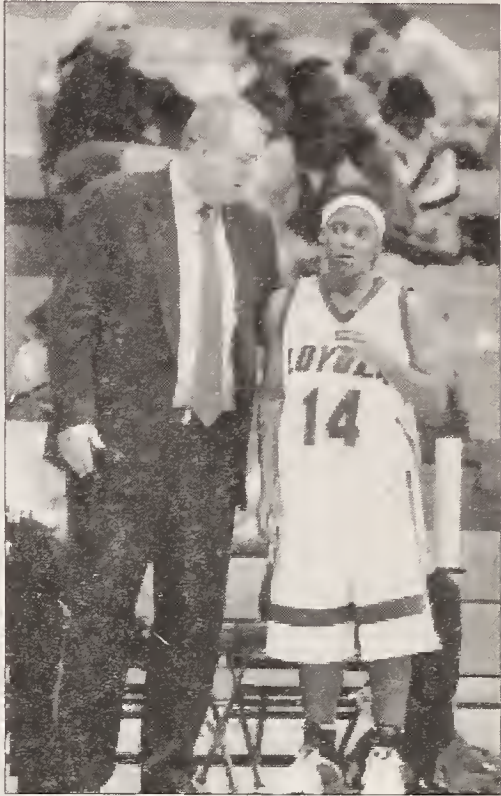
"Our team showed character and courage to come back in the game," said Logan. "But we made crucial mistakes at crucial times."

Although the Stags turned the ball over 21 times on the day, Loyola could not take advantage. The Hounds were out-rebounded 42-31 and ultimately that was the reason that they failed to come back.

Loyola fared much better on Friday, showing a lot of determination to come back from 12 down in the second half to beat Iona on the road 65-63. The first half was sluggish on the defensive end for Loyola as they failed to stop the inside games of Martina Weber and Tiara Headen who both scored 16 points on the day. The score was 37-27 in favor of the Gaels at the end of the half.

The second half did not start out much better for Loyola as they allowed Iona to build a 42-30 lead. Then the Hounds made their methodical comeback. Troupe, Harrington, Dunn, and sophomore Tynisha Davis would all catch fire at some point in the second half to bring Loyola back.

At the 10:21 mark, the Greyhounds got to within six at 47-41 after threes by Dunn and Harrington. Five minutes later, after a back and forth battle, Loyola drew even closer at 55-54 after Davis scored eight points in a two minute stretch. At the four minute mark, junior Jill Glessner completed the come back with a three to give the Hounds a 59-57 lead.



SPORTS INFORMATION

Head coach Joe Logan and Krystale Harrington discuss gameplan during a break in action. Harrington has become this year's leader and coach on the floor as Logan commands from the sideline.

The teams traded baskets until Harrington, who had 13 points and nine assists, hit a big shot to give Loyola a 65-61 lead with 1:46 left. Iona would score once more in the final minute to draw to 65-63, but the Hounds defense held on for the victory.

"We showed a lot of character in the second half," said Logan. "We were down by 12 but we came back and held on for the two point win."

On Tuesday, Loyola ran away with the game from the start to defeat a weak Howard squad. Every player on the team scored for Loyola as the squad put together a solid game from start to finish.

Five players scored in double figures as Loyola shot 54 percent from the floor. The Hounds annihilated Howard on the boards, 51-21 and in assists, 24-4 as they cruised to an 83-65 victory.

Loyola's next matchup is on Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 5 PM where they will travel just up the road to play local rival Towson.



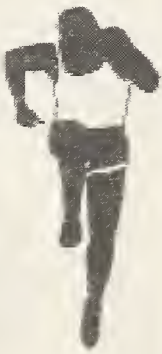
Women's Basketball

Team	MAAC				Overall			
	W	L	PCT	GB	W	L	PCT	Streak
Canisius	2	0	1.000	-	4	3	.571	Won 2
Fairfield	2	0	1.000	-	4	3	.571	Won 2
Marist	2	0	1.000	-	4	4	.500	Won 4
Sienna	2	0	1.000	-	3	4	.429	Won 2
Loyola	1	1	.500	-	4	3	.571	Lost 1
Manhattan	1	1	.500	-	4	4	.500	Won 1
Iona	0	2	.000	-	2	4	.333	Lost 4
Saint Peter's	0	2	.000	-	2	4	.333	Lost 1
Niagara	0	2	.000	-	1	7	.125	Lost 5
Rider	0	2	.000	-	0	7	.250	Lost 7

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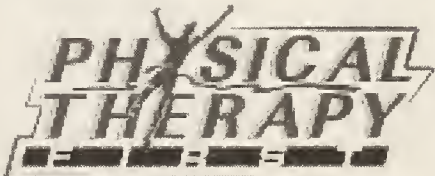
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REC. SPORTS' STUDENT EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

The Department of Recreational Sports is proud to recognize Michael Levy as our November 2005 Student Employee of the Month. Since January of 2003, Michael has worked in the Department of Recreational Sports as an Intramural employee. After 1 1/2 years as a dedicated and hard-working Intramural Official, Michael was promoted to Intramural Supervisor for his outstanding efforts and performance.

Our Intramural staff is founded on three basic principles: Teamwork/ Cooperation, Consistency, and Professionalism. Michael holds these same values as his own and excels in finding pride and ownership in our Intramural Program. He has established a solid rapport, not only with his peers, but with our professional administrators as well. Michael is a true team-player, always eager to take an additional shift or arrive early for the day's Intramural contests, because of his devotion to our program and his willingness to lead. When necessary, he officiates all contests consistently and without bias, but most comfortable supervising and mentoring our staff and participants with professionalism and respect. Michael is a truly deserving recipient of this award and we congratulate him.



Michael Levy
Senior



Men's Basketball

Team	MAAC				Overall			
	W	L	PCT	GB	W	L	PCT	Streak
Iona	2	0	1.000	-	7	0	1.000	Won 7
St. Peter's	2	0	1.000	-	4	4	.500	Won 4
Manhattan	2	0	1.000	-	2	4	.333	Won 2
Loyola	1	1	.500	-	5	1	.833	Lost 1
Sienna	1	1	.500	-	4	3	.571	Lost 1
Canisius	1	1	.500	-	1	5	.143	Won 1
Rider	0	1	.000	-	3	4	.429	Won 1
Fairfield	0	1	.000	-	1	6	.143	Lost 2
Marist	0	2	.000	-	2	4	.333	Lost 3
Niagara	0	2	.000	-	2	5	.286	Lost 5

LC snags first MAAC win in OT

continued from page 19

down the stretch.

"Manhattan hustled after the ball, and our shots just didn't fall," Patsos said. "The ball didn't bounce our way."

Strong play from junior Shane James, who tallied nine points, allowed the Hounds to stay in the game throughout, but a lack of consistent offensive threats beside Collins hurt Loyola near the end.

"We beat ourselves tonight," James said. "But this isn't going to slow us down; it's only going make us stronger."

Loyola lost the advantage on the boards 39-33 while Manhattan shot 51 percent from the field, the best percentage for any visiting opponent at The Track this year.

"They beat us with loose balls and rebounds," said Collins. "If we get half of those loose balls and rebounds it would have been a totally different game."

Manhattan's C.J. Anderson led the team with 20 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. Anderson proved to be the deciding factor in the contest, as rebounds and points in

the paint came very sparingly for the Hounds.

"It was tough," said senior Josko Alujevic, who guarded Anderson most of the game. "I allowed him to score some points, but we just have to bounce back, learn from this, and pick it up."

With the loss the Hounds drop to 5-1 overall and 1-1 in the Metro-Atlantic Athletic Conference as the Jaspers improve to 3-4 on the season and 2-0 in the MAAC.

"We are heading in the right direction," said Patsos. "The way I look at it, we are building a program. You got to go through some pains to get somewhere."

On Friday, the Hounds went on their longest road trip to date as they faced off against the Fairfield Stags. Loyola grabbed their first win in a conference opener in 10 years as well as their first 5-0 start since 1930, when the Hounds went 14-1 on the season.

Senior guard Terrence Todd carried Fairfield from behind with 15 second-half points, and helped claw his team back to a



Andre Collins is averaging 24 points a game this season, with his career high of 39 being scored against Manhattan on Sunday.

three-point lead with just 12.5 seconds remaining in regulation. Tuck cut the lead to one with his first basket of the night and only 4.5 seconds remaining. Two free throws from Fairfield put them back up by three, but a buzzer-beating try by Collins connected to send the game to overtime in dramatic fashion.

With 10 points in the Hounds' first overtime session of the season, they took home their first MAAC win, with the help of five players tacking on double digit figures; Collins with 23 points, Alujevic adding 21, Sullivan with 14, James dishing 12 and Stanback finishing with 11.

Alujevic got Loyola off to a great start, dropping seven of the team's first 13 points. But just as against Manhattan, the Greyhounds used their strong outside shooting to take an early lead. Hitting eight three-pointers in the first half, including four from freshman Marquis Sullivan, the Greyhounds took a four-point lead at halftime, 41-37.

"We got around Fairfield because they were such a small team," said Alujevic. "We got the ball down in the post and just worked with what we got."

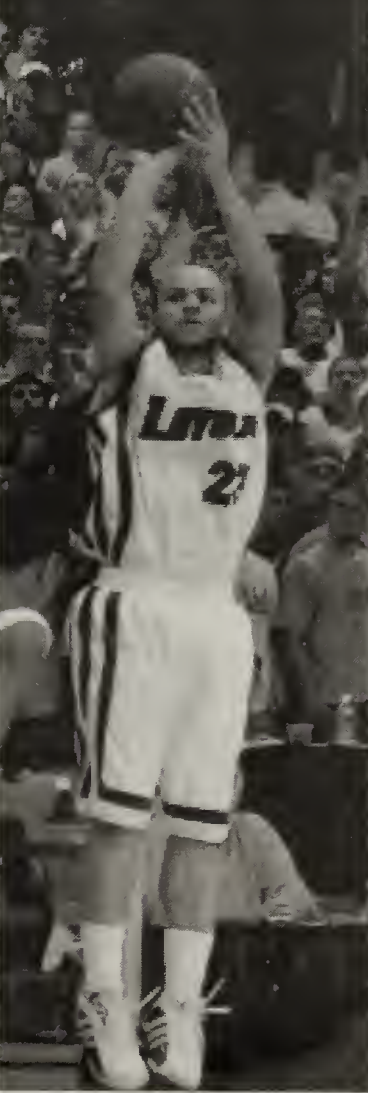
Coming out of the half, a pair of threes from Collins and James gave Loyola a nine point advantage, the biggest of the night, but a 14-2 run gave Fairfield the three point lead. Once again, Collins dropped in a pair of three-point field goals as sophomore Freddie Stanback nailed the Hounds' 15th three of the game.

"For a team that has never been through a season like this before, I am really proud of my guys," said Patsos. "I'm proud of the players, the students, and the school. I'm really happy that we grabbed the win against Fairfield."

The Hounds will make the trip down to the University of Virginia on Friday, Dec. 23. The game will be the first of the season for Maryland transfer Hassan Fofana, adding another inside presence against the ACC opponent. Six days later Loyola heads

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MLB transactions have this offseason cooking on a hot stove

With the temperature dropping and the amount of stress of finals rising, there is not much heating up our Christmas season. We have to wait until January 4 for an anticipated college football championship. The football season has yet to enter the exciting final weeks of the season. And hockey and basketball are just starting and honestly, rather unimportant right now. So what do we have beyond the resurrected Loyola Greyhounds? We have the sizzling

TOM CONNELLY



MORTAL TOMBAT

baseball off-season hot stove.

Baseball is the only sport that is year round. Because during the off-season, every baseball fan has to pay attention or else they won't recognize their lineup come March. Just ask Florida Marlins fans. This is the time of year for everyone to play general manager of their favorite team. Time to address and fix all the problems they encountered last year, that by the time that spring training rolls around every Major League team can be spun as perfect and undefeated.

With the conclusion of the winter meetings, it is clear why baseball has the best off-season. A sports fan can wake up and see that you have a new center fielder or that your favorite player has been traded. Mostly big market teams will enjoy the chaos that is the baseball winter. Fans of the big pocketed teams can expect every free agent or player to be mentioned in rumors.

I enjoy speaking with every baseball fan

The ultimate fan's X-mas list covers '80s ballads to the World Cup

As my mind was racing through ideas for this week's column, my thought process went from mascot cage fights to simply how funny Baltimore snow storms are. Then,

MIKE TIRONE



OFFSIDES

after an interesting weekend full of Christmas music at Swallows, Christmas music at Primo's, Christmas music in Campion, I figured I would force myself into the holiday spirit, even though Alvin and the Chipmunks have slightly got me there already.

I might be considered an "adult" and shouldn't believe in Santa Claus, but I'm superstitious. Last year my wish list to Santa asked for a great year in sports.

What did I get? A New England Patriots Super Bowl (again), a North Carolina men's college basketball championship, and now an up-and-coming Loyola men's basketball team. So instead of the casual wishes, this year I am going to reach a little bit. So here goes:

Dear Santa,

This year I have a bunch of things that I want under my Christmas tree, so I hope such a detailed catalog doesn't scare you away.

First, please give me a college football playoff. The Bowl Championship Series, also known as The Most Ridiculously Foolish Way of Finding Football's Best Team, needs to stop taking up so much room under my tree. It doesn't belong there. I don't understand how having a simple playoff like the rest of its college sports buddies is so difficult. We all know it's about money and how to get the most of it.

during this time about the excitement and anxiousness it brings. Yankee fans are desperately hoping to find a center fielder who isn't Bubba Crosby, while Indians fans are looking for that last piece that will put them back into playoff contention. Then, of course, Boston fans are anxious to see what the team will do with disgruntled outfielder Manny Ramirez. Similarly, Phillies fans are trying to rid themselves of All-Star home run derby champ, Bobby Abreu. Then there are Mets fans that are just glad to get noticed again. All this, and then there's always the unexpected, like a fire sale in South Florida or the fact that Yankees are losing money.

At this point, I would argue that I actually prefer the off-season in baseball to the regular season. Maybe that's because this is the season where the Mets are actually good. But every fan can get excited during this time, unless you are partial to the Rockies or Royals. There are clearly winners and losers in the off-season, but there is always hope that your team is the next team to make the big move and pull in a Manny Ramirez or Billy Wagner.

This past week at the winter meeting, general managers (unless you don't have one like the Red Sox) gather together in Texas and discuss the availability of everybody that can run around the bases or throw the ball. At the conclusion of these meetings, names such as Barry Zito, Javier Vazquez and Alfonso Soriano were thrown around. While the Dodgers and Red Sox have completely new infields, some teams such as the Twins and A's are trying to construct teams based upon their low budgets.

Who would have thought that the Blue

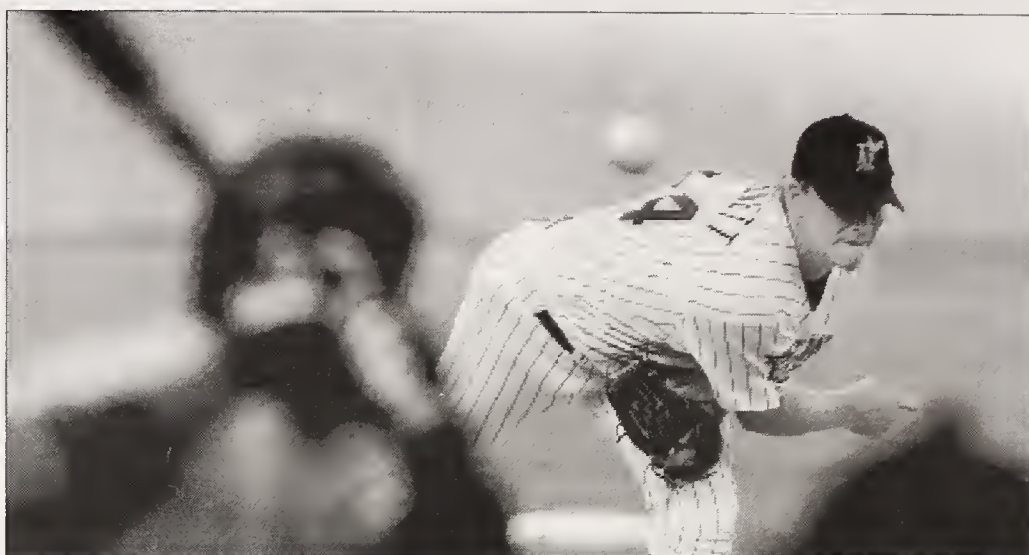
But when a team like Oregon basically goes undefeated (aside from being beaten by the dynasty of USC) that plays in a semi-difficult Division I conference, you have to give them a shot to be known as one of the best teams in the country.

It's like in the movie "Starksy and Hutch," as Reese Feldmen (played by Vince Vaughn) has a program for criminals just fresh out of jail looking for a job. No one wants to hire a convicted criminal, so they start the "Nearly There Program" to help them. I'm not considering the Ducks to be convicts but I think they deserve a shot just like anyone else. I mean they do pull off those yellow and green jerseys nicely. No delinquent would be caught in that get-up.

Next, I would like more true sports fans and teams. Now "true" is such a generic term, let me re-phrase it, "not flippin' skeezy." Now that I have narrowed it down, this is what I mean. I don't know who your favorite team is Santa, but suppose the North Pole Elves were facing the New Jersey Devils. Now let's also assume that your Elves were having a pretty disappointing season and you knew of this hot, new young prospect named Jesus who skated like he just walked on water.

Would you, head coach Kris Kringle yourself, purposely lose games to be able to draft this superstar in the making? I will let you chew on that, because it's quite the appetizing subject. Coaches that have their kickers purposely shank field goals with seconds left, and fans that cross their fingers for Monday Night Football shut outs need to stop popping up in the world. All I want are "true" fans and coaches in my stocking this year. I don't think that is too much to ask.

Another gift I would love to see covered in a bright red and white wrapping paper would be an Indianapolis Colt's loss, or at least less coverage of their supposedly



WALTER MICHOT/MIAMI HERALD

Former Florida Marliners ace and World Series MVP, A.J. Burnett, was signed to our northern neighbors, the Toronto Blue Jays. This was one of the biggest transactions of the off-season. This is just another year of unloading for the Marlins and soon enough we will see them buying another World Series ring.

Jays would actually have a team that is comparable to the ever-powerful Red Sox and Yankees? I would have to guess that our neighbors to the North are ecstatic because the holy baseball off-season has blessed them with money and luck.

This is not to say that the dynamics of baseball are going to change. The teams with more money such as the Yankees, Red Sox and Mets are going to have an easier time winning. But this off-season, everyone has hope, which is the greatest aspect of sports. Before the season begins, we can see that one player changing locations can reform an entire franchise. Look what happened when the Red Sox acquired Curt Schilling two winters ago. Without hope in your favorite team, what more do you have in sports?

The Christmas season is a time for

miracles and dreams. This is a time when hopes turn into reality. Unlike any other sport at this time, baseball gives us an opportunity to find something under the tree that we were not expecting. Who knows, by the end of the wild off-season, you may find a Johnny Damon or [insert superstar name here], hanging in your stocking. Baseball's off-season excitement certainly differs from any other sport and is distinctively exciting during the usual dull pre-holiday season. Since your parents really have no shot of acquiring an Xbox 360 for Christmas, you might as well just hope that your favorite team procures a star like Manny Ramirez. Stay tuned folks!

From all of us at Mortal Tombat and the Greyhound staff, we hope that your finals go well and Christmas season. Season greetings; to see you all next semester.

"dream season." I will consider their season a dream when Payton Manning can win a playoff game. If he does, good for him; Dan Marino will just fall down another peg on the list of great quarterbacks. But for now, let's lighten up a little bit.

The next gift I wish for is sort of complex, but I think it's do-able. I would love to have handful of athletes at my disposal. I want to have a celebrating Chad Johnson with all his hype and hysterics (recently proposed to Bengal's cheerleader NOT sold separately). He is the kind of character that everyone would love to be around at a party.

Being able to drag Heisman winner, Reggie Bush by leash to this fiesta, and see him juke and spin his way to the guacamole dip in the kitchen would be great. I would be a hit, not that I am not already (see drunken Journey serenading at Swallows Saturday night for reference).

I then would find the use of J.J. Redick later in the night at the party, as we dominate in a beer pong tournament against all my friends. We will be unstoppable, but for every missed Solo cup, I casually just turn and punch him square in the face. A 98% free throw shooter and supposedly the best player/model in the country should never miss a plastic cup with a ping pong ball. Finally, to end the night, I would be escorted home by the lovely vixens Maria Sharapova and Jennie Finch. No leashes would be required with these two, unless asked.

If you make any of these gifts happen Poppa Claus, I think you know which one would be best for me.

One gift that I hope to see more of next semester at Reitz Arena is the great fan unity of the singing of Jon Bon Jovi's classic '80's ballad, "Livin' on a Prayer" during media timeouts. I think something needs to be said for the purely genuine harmonization of the Dog Pound that made me get chills at this past Sunday's game.

A change from all of the new rap and hip hop beats we play during timeouts and the Dance Team's routines is nice. (Now that I think of it, Santa, I would also like to include the Loyola Dance Team in my previous gift of easily accessible athletes/entertainers. Thanks, pal.)

Another thing that I hope to get not under my Christmas tree, but on the floor of Reitz Arena. The ever popular Christmas hat atop the head of the center court's Greyhound logo is radical. Many have seen this displayed on the Jaguar at Jacksonville's stadium. I feel that if a team cannot celebrate such a wonderful holiday with a creative logo adjustment than why celebrate at all? You feel me SC?

Lastly my dear Jolly Ol' Saint Nick, I would love to see a truly amazing World Cup tucked quietly in the corner behind the tree this year. Even though it is in Germany and the U.S.A. got screwed with group drawings, I still think us Americans have a shot at making some magic this summer.

Perhaps another great Cup final like 1994? Roberto Baggio's penalty kick that sailed high over the Brazil crossbar to lose the championship was fantastic drama. But I think we all know that unwritten law of penalty kicks; never shoot high. It's like that unwritten law that tells you not to step on the metal strips on the land bridge going to class when it's either wet or 30 degrees below. You just don't do it, or you get screwed over.

Fortunately, most of us don't have to become a long, greasy-haired Italian who is hated in his own country if we do slip on those damn things. So I ask for you to provide me with spectacular goals, incredible finishes, remarkable coverage and finally, Kasey Keller and Ronaldo.

So there you have it Santa, I hope that isn't too much to ask for from you. And just remember: I still want a hula hoop.

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